United States Department of Agriculture

Federally Led Landscape Scale Conservation Initiatives in the Northeast and Midwest

Forest Service

Northeastern Area
State and Private Forestry

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Acknowledgments

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Federally Led Landscape Scale Conservation Initiatives in the Northeast and Midwest

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United States
Department of Agriculture

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Landscape Scale Conservation in the Northeast and Midwest

Background

Landscape scale conservation occurs when multiple landowners pursue common conservation goals, across large blocks of land, to ensure ecosystems are healthy. Conservation on a landscape scale requires both coordination and a commitment across all land ownership types—private, State, and Federal. All three branches of the Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, are working together and collaborating with partners towards shared landscape conservation goals. The Northeastern Area State and Private Forestry of the Forest Service (Northeastern Area) is well positioned and authorized to facilitate such efforts.

The Northeastern Area's landscape conservation efforts support the advancement of multi-State priorities included in State Forest Action Plans (National Association of State Foresters 2010). U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Vilsack's "all-lands" policy and the regional position paper, "Landscape Scale Conservation in the Northeast and Midwest," (USDA Forest Service; Northeastern Area Association of State Foresters 2014) also guide our activities. The position paper, developed jointly by the Northeastern Area, Eastern Region of the National Forest System, and Northern Research Station, along with the State Foresters, describes the basis for collaboration among the signatories.

Ultimately, landscape scale conservation allows the Northeastern Area to make the most effective use of resources and program authorities to meet regional conservation goals. This project is intended to enhance Northeastern Area efforts to coordinate assistance and accomplish these goals on a regional scale, in the 20 States of the Northeast and Midwest, as well as the District of Columbia. These efforts contribute strongly to Objective A, Strategy 1, in the Northeastern Area's Strategic Plan, Fiscal Years 2013–2018 (Northeastern Area State and Private Forestry 2013, p. 8):

"A. Contribute to conservation of important forest landscapes across the urban to rural continuum."

"1. Encourage new and support existing landscape-scale partnerships, particularly in multistate priority areas identified in the State Forest Action Plans, to leverage resources and more efficiently achieve results across larger geographic regions."

Project Overview

State forestry agencies identified "multi-State priorities" in their State Forest Action Plans; a summary of these areas and issues was compiled. Updates from annual State accomplishment reporting and interviews with State forest planners were also obtained. All of this information was used to develop comprehensive documents that outline each of the **multi-State priority areas** (DeSenze 2016a) and **multi-State priority issues** (DeSenze 2016b), and these documents were provided to partners.

Also, research identified **landscape scale conservation initiatives led by the U.S. Forest Service and other Federal agencies** (e.g., Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Department of the Interior). Information about such efforts (purpose, scale, contacts, and existing partnerships) was used to create a comprehensive inventory of these initiatives. The Northeastern Area and the Eastern Region of the U.S. Forest Service, using existing geospatial data and the landscape scale conservation inventory, are developing comprehensive maps of priority areas in the region. The inventory and maps are meant to show how each initiative relates to multi-State priorities.

State forest planners met in June 2013 at the annual Forest Resources Planning Committee meeting of the Northeastern Area Association of State Foresters (NAASF), where the documents described above, including the information that follows, were presented. Short workshops facilitated by Northeastern Area staff allowed State forest planners to connect their most important multi-State priorities to existing landscape scale conservation initiatives for enhanced planning and collaborative project proposals.

The Northeastern Area will use these tools, along with the outcomes of the Forest Resource Planning workshops, to identify how to advance specific multi-State efforts, especially where resources can be leveraged for the greatest return on investment and achieve goals of the Northeastern Area. NAASF and State forestry agencies can also use these tools to identify projects to submit for the Northeastern Area's Landscape Scale Restoration competitive grants and other funding opportunities, in addition to being a valuable tool for regular reviews and updates to State Forest Action Plans.

How to Read and Review This Document

Landscape Scale Conservation initiatives led by the U.S. Forest Service are described first, in alphabetical order. Initiatives led by other Federal agencies follow and are ordered alphabetically. Information was gathered through online research and U.S. Forest Service staff in regards to purpose, scope, geographic area, and lead agency(ies) and organization(s).

- You can click in the Table of Contents on a particular initiative to jump to the description of that initiative and a summary of State involvement.
- States with an asterisk (*) are not served by the Northeastern Area.
- Additional information related to the initiatives, including "U.S. Forest Service Contacts" are also included where appropriate and available.
- An index at the end of the document groups the initiatives into these categories:
  - ◊ Nationwide Federal Initiatives
  - ◊ Regional Federal Initiatives by State
  - ◊ Regional Federal Initiatives by National Forest
- Please feel free to provide comments, additional information, broken hyperlinks discovered in this document, and any other suggestions to the Northeastern Area contact listed below.

Contact: Regional Planner, Northeastern Area, 610–557–4139

References

DeSenze, Philip A. 2016a. Multi-State priority areas in the Northeast and Midwest. NA-FR-02-16. Newtown Square, PA: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Northeastern Area State and Private Forestry.

DeSenze, Philip A. 2016b. Multi-State priority issues in the Northeast and Midwest. NA-FR-03-16. Newtown Square, PA: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Northeastern Area State and Private Forestry.

National Association of State Foresters. [n.d.]. Northeast. Forest action plans: guidelines for forests. http://www.stateforesters.org/region/northeast (7 June 2016).

Northeastern Area State and Private Forestry. 2013. Northeastern Area State and Private Forestry Strategic Plan, Fiscal Years 2013–2018. Newtown Square, PA: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service. 27 p. http://na.fs.fed.us/pubs/detail.cfm?id=280 (20 September 2012).

USDA Forest Service; Northeastern Area Association of State Foresters. 2014. Landscape scale conservation in the Northeast and Midwest. The Foundations of Collaboration for the USDA Forest Service: Eastern Region, Northeastern Area, Northern Research Station, and Forest Products Lab; and the Northeastern Area Association of State Foresters. 18 p. http://na.fs.fed.us/ra/Updated%20LSC%20position%20paper%20FINAL%207-15-14.pdf (17 September 2014).

Initiatives Led by the Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture

Appalachian Forest Renewal Initiative

The Appalachian Forest Renewal Initiative is a partnership between the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and the U.S. Forest Service, State and Private Forestry, to support forest restoration in the Appalachian coal mining region. The initiative provides targeted grant funding for restoration projects that improve habitat in Appalachian forests for key species, such as cerulean and golden-winged warblers, eastern brook trout, and freshwater mussels.

The initiative is focused on the following:

- Restoring forest habitat on small- to medium-sized project areas across the coal mining region of Appalachia
- Targeting sites that include a mixture of existing forest, quality streams, and previously mined land, adjacent to biologically rich, protected Federal, State, or nongovernmental organization lands
- Integrating practices that include stream restoration, timber and fuels management, and tree planting, using a modified version of the Forestry Reclamation Approach that is designed for purposes such as unused surface mined lands and invasive plants management, to accomplish multiple ecological and habitat enhancement objectives

Lead Organizations: Forest Service – State and Private Forestry, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

States: Kentucky,* Maryland, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee,* Virginia,* West Virginia

U.S. Forest Service Contact: Morgantown Field Representative (Northeastern Area) – 304–285–1540

Aquatic Organism Passage

The U.S. Forest Service is recognized as a national leader in road-crossing techniques that ensure aquatic organism passage, or the ability for fish and other aquatic creatures to move upstream or downstream under roads. The agency also assists in projects that allow for passage at irrigation diversions and small dams. Restoration work accomplished under this program is done on forest highways, roads, and irrigation diversions, in cooperation with State and county transportation agencies, landowners, and a wide range of interest groups.

Assessments from the past decade confirm the ecological importance of providing passage to all native aquatic and riparian species through road-stream crossings and for all life stages of those species, particularly to provide for robust communities and for resilience to climate-related stress. Aquatic organism passage at road-stream crossings has emerged as one of the U.S. Forest Service's strongest examples of internal integration and quantifiable, on-the-ground restoration. Additionally, several States have similar programs in place to rehabilitate passages on State land, or private land, or both.

Lead U.S. Agencies: Forest Service – National Forest System, Fish and Wildlife Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Army Corps of Engineers, Bureau of Land Management

States: Nationwide

U.S. Forest Service Contacts:

- Regional Fish and Aquatic Ecology Program Leader (Eastern Region) – 414–297–3431
- Aquatic Ecologist (Eastern Region) – 414–297–1749

Central Appalachian Spruce Restoration Initiative

The Central Appalachian Spruce Restoration Initiative is a partnership of diverse interests with a common goal of restoring historic red spruce – northern hardwood ecosystems across the high elevation landscapes of Central Appalachia.

The initiative is comprised of private, State, Federal, and nongovernmental organizations that recognize this ecosystem for its ecological, aesthetic, recreational, economic, and cultural values.

The goal is to restore the red spruce – northern hardwood ecosystem across portions of its former range on both public and private lands, with the scale, connectivity, maturity, and other features that will allow it to be fully functioning and sustainable over time.

The initiative works across property boundaries with willing public and private landowners. Using GIS models, key areas have been identified based on criteria such as proximity to existing spruce habitat, public land, high priority streams, and caves. The initiative works to secure funding for restoration projects in these key areas, and works with private landowners to distribute information about the value of red spruce – northern hardwood forests. A major component of management in these areas is the coordination of ecosystem restoration activities across the Central Appalachian landscape.

In addition to native plantings, members participate in various restoration activities, including collection, storage, and propagation of native plant materials to be used in future plantings. Member organizations also participate in on-the-ground activities such as tree thinning to favor understory red spruce, aquatic passage restoration, road decommissioning, and scientific studies aimed at enhancing the red spruce – northern hardwoods ecosystem.

Lead U.S. Agencies: Forest Service – National Forest System, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, Geological Survey – Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement

State: West Virginia

National Forest: Monongahela, WV

U.S. Forest Service Contact: Ecologist (Monongahela National Forest) – 304–636–1800

Chiefs' Joint Landscape Restoration Partnership

Susquehanna Watershed Riparian Buffer Enhancements
Upper Mississippi Headwaters Restoration
NH Drinking Water Improvement
Lake Superior Landscape Restoration Partnership
WV Restoration Venture

MN: North Shore Coastal Forest Restoration
VT: Poultney-Mettowee Watershed Restoration
OH: Collaborative Oak Management
MO: Ozark Highlands Restoration
IL: Kincaid Lake Watershed Restoration

The goal of the Chiefs' Joint Landscape Restoration Partnership is to improve the health and resiliency of forest ecosystems where public and private lands meet, through a partnership between the USDA Forest Service and Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

The vision is to restore lands across large landscapes regardless of ownership, reduce wildfire threats to communities and landowners, protect water quality and supply, and improve habitat for at-risk species seamlessly across public and private lands.

To accomplish this vision, the Forest Service and NRCS are coordinating efforts on priority forested watersheds, which already had existing local partnerships and work in progress. By leveraging technical and financial resources and coordinating activities on adjacent public and private lands, conservation work in the watersheds will be more efficient and effective.

The agencies are reviewing additional sites to restore.

Lead U.S. Agencies: Forest Service – National Forest System, Natural Resources Conservation

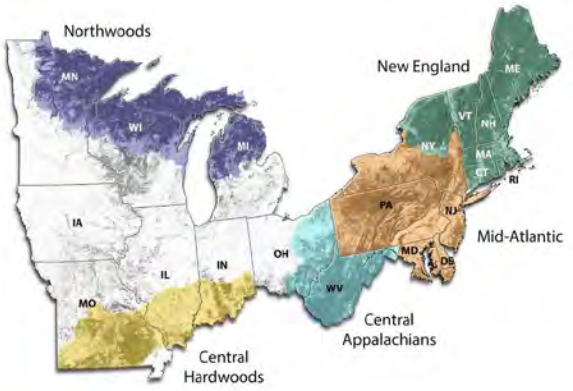
ServiceStates and National Forests: Nationwide; regional projects in the Northeast and Midwest include:

- Collaborative Oak Management in the Ohio Appalachian Mountains – Wayne National Forest
- Kinkaid Lake Watershed Restoration in Southern Illinois – Shawnee National Forest
- Lake Superior Landscape Restoration in Wisconsin – Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest

- Minnesota Lake Superior North Shore Forest Restoration Project – Superior National Forest
- Missouri Ozark Highlands Restoration Partnership – Mark Twain National Forest
- New Hampshire Drinking Water Improvement – White Mountain National Forest
- Susquehanna Watershed Riparian Buffers in South Central New York (no National Forest land)
- Upper Mississippi River Headwaters Restoration in Minnesota – Chippewa National Forest
- Vermont Poultney-Mettowee Watershed Restoration Project – Green Mountain National Forest
- West Virginia Restoration Venture – Monongahela National Forest

U.S. Forest Service Contact: Assistant Director for Planning and Landscape Scale Conservation (Eastern Region) – 414–297–3794

Climate Change Response Framework



The Climate Change Response Framework is a collaborative, cross-boundary approach among scientists, managers, and landowners, to incorporate climate change considerations into natural resource management. The framework provides an integrated set of tools, partnerships, and actions to support climate-informed conservation and forest management.

Six framework projects encompass 19 States, including 14 National Forests and millions of acres of forest land. Each regional project interweaves four components: science and management partnerships, vulnerability assessments, adaptation resources, and demonstration projects. The projects share these three objectives:

1. Provide a forum for people interested in this issue to effectively and efficiently share experiences and lessons learned.
2. Develop user-friendly tools to help public and private land managers factor climate change considerations into their decisionmaking.
3. Support efforts by public land managers, private landowners, and others to implement adaptive responses to climate change impacts.

Following are descriptions of five eco-regional projects in the Central Appalachians, Central Hardwoods, Mid-Atlantic, New England, and Northwoods, as well as an urban project in the Chicago area.

Lead U.S. Agency: Forest Service – Northern Institute of Applied Climate Science

States: Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, West Virginia, Wisconsin

U.S. Forest Service Contact: Director (Northern Institute of Applied Climate Science) – 906–482–6303 x20

Central Appalachians Climate Change Response Framework

The Central Appalachians Climate Change Response Framework (CCRF) covers almost 29 million acres in eastern Ohio, West Virginia, and western Maryland, within Ecological Provinces M221 (Central Appalachian Broadleaf Forest) and 221 (Eastern Broadleaf Forest – Oceanic) of the National Hierarchical Framework of Ecological Units (Bailey 1995). The assessment area is a landscape comprised of some of the oldest and most biologically diverse forests in North America. The unshaded areas of the map are outside the scope of the Central Appalachians Framework.

A team representing Federal and State land management agencies, private forest owners, conservation organizations, and others from Ohio, Maryland, and West Virginia have come together to execute the Central Appalachians Framework and accomplish the three objectives outlined above.

States: Maryland, Ohio, West Virginia

National Forests: Monongahela, WV; Wayne, OH

U.S. Forest Service Contacts:

- Central Appalachians CCRF Coordinator (Northern Institute of Applied Climate Science) – 906–482–6303 x12
- Morgantown Field Representative (Northeastern Area) – 304–285–1540

Reference

Bailey, Robert G., comp. 1995. Description of the ecoregions of the United States. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Research Station. Fort Collins, CO. http://www.fs.fed.us/land/ecosysmgmt/index.html (20 September 2012).

Central Hardwoods Climate Change Response Framework

The Central Hardwoods Climate Change Response Framework (CCRF) covers 42 million acres of southern Missouri, Illinois, and Indiana, within Ecological Province 223 (Central Interior Broadleaf Forest) of the National Hierarchical Framework of Ecological Units (Bailey 1995). The analysis area is a mosaic of natural communities characterized by oak-hickory forests, woodlands, and savannas. The unshaded areas of the map are outside the scope of the Central Hardwoods Framework.

A team representing Federal and State land management agencies, private forest owners, conservation organizations, and others from Illinois, Indiana, and Missouri have come together to execute the Central Hardwoods Framework and accomplish the three objectives outlined above.

States: Illinois, Indiana, Missouri

National Forests: Hoosier, IN; Mark Twain, MO; Shawnee, IL

U.S. Forest Service Contacts:

- Central Hardwoods CCRF Coordinator (Northern Institute of Applied Climate Science and Eastern Region) – 651–649–5016
- St. Paul Field Representative (Northeastern Area) – 651–649–5276

Reference

Bailey, Robert G., comp. 1995. Description of the ecoregions of the United States. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Research Station. Fort Collins, CO. http://www.fs.fed.us/land/ecosysmgmt/index.html (20 September 2012).

Mid-Atlantic Climate Change Response Framework

The Mid-Atlantic Climate Change Response Framework (CCRF) covers the 60 million acres of Delaware, Pennsylvania, Maryland, New Jersey, and New York within the diverse Ecological Provinces 211 (Northeastern Mixed Forest), 221 (Eastern Broadleaf Forest), 222 (Midwest Broadleaf Forest), 232 (Outer Coastal Plain Mixed Forest), M211 (Adirondack – New England Mixed Forest – Coniferous Forest), and M221 (Central Appalachian Broadleaf Forest – Coniferous Forest – Meadow) of the National Hierarchical Framework of Ecological Units (Bailey 1995). The unshaded areas of the map are outside the scope of the Mid-Atlantic Framework.

The Mid-Atlantic Framework project is bringing together a team of Federal, State, and Tribal land management organizations, conservation organizations, and private forest owners to execute the framework and accomplish the three objectives outlined above.

States: Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania

National Forests: Allegheny, PA; Finger Lakes, NY

U.S. Forest Service Contacts:

- Mid-Atlantic CCRF Coordinator (Northern Institute of Applied Climate Science) – 906–482–6303 x12
- Morgantown Field Representative (Northeastern Area) – 304–285–1540

Reference

Bailey, Robert G., comp. 1995. Description of the ecoregions of the United States. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Research Station. Fort Collins, CO. http://www.fs.fed.us/land/ecosysmgmt/index.html (20 September 2012).

New England Climate Change Response Framework

The New England Climate Change Response Framework (CCRF) covers over 53 million acres of Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, and Vermont, within Ecological Province 211 (Northeastern Mixed Forest), M211 (Adirondack – New England Mixed Forest – Coniferous Forest – Alpine Meadow) and 221 (Eastern Broadleaf Forest) of the National Hierarchical Framework of Ecological Units (Bailey 1995). This framework project encompasses an ecologically diverse section of the United States, with the inclusion of coastal forests, plateaus, and mountainous alpine boreal spruce fir forests. The unshaded areas of the map are outside the scope of the New England Framework.

The New England Framework is forming a team of Federal, State, and Tribal land management organizations, conservation organizations, and private forest owners, to execute the Framework and accomplish the three objectives outlined above.

States: Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont

National Forests: Green Mountain, VT; White Mountain, NH

U.S. Forest Service Contacts:

- New England CCRF Coordinator (Northern Institute of Applied Climate Science) – 906–482–6303 x29
- Durham Field Representative (Northeastern Area) – 603–868–7694

Reference

Bailey, Robert G., comp. 1995. Description of the ecoregions of the United States. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Research Station. Fort Collins, CO. http://www.fs.fed.us/land/ecosysmgmt/index.html (20 September 2012).

Northwoods Climate Change Response Framework

The Northwoods Climate Change Response Framework (CCRF) covers 64 million acres of northern Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Michigan within Ecological Province 212 (Laurentian Mixed Forest) of the National Hierarchical Framework of Ecological Units (Bailey 1995). The study area is a rich mosaic of water features and forests characterized by past glacial activity and Great Lakes climate. This diverse landscape is also a transition between the northern boreal forests and the southern hardwood forests. The unshaded areas of the map are outside the scope of the Northwoods Framework.

A team representing Federal, State, and Tribal land management agencies, private forest owners, conservation organizations, and others from Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin have come together to execute the Framework and accomplish the three objectives outlined above.

States: Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin

National Forests: Chequamegon-Nicolet, WI; Chippewa, MN; Hiawatha, MI; Huron-Manistee, MI; Ottawa, MI; Superior, MN

U.S. Forest Service Contacts:

- Northwoods CCRF Co-Coordinators (Northern Institute of Applied Climate Science) – 906–482–6303 x21 or x29
- St. Paul Field Representative (Northeastern Area) – 651–649–5276

Reference

Bailey, Robert G., comp. 1995. Description of the ecoregions of the United States. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Research Station. Fort Collins, CO. http://www.fs.fed.us/land/ecosysmgmt/index.html (20 September 2012).

Urban Forestry Climate Change Response Framework

Urban forests will experience local climate change impacts in the coming decades. To reduce these impacts, urban forest managers will need to adapt their management, but often lack specialized knowledge and tools to do so.

The overall goal of this effort is to ensure that urban forests will continue to provide benefits to the people that live in urban communities as the climate changes. The Urban Forestry Climate Change Response Framework (CCRF) is in planning and development. It is seeking urban forestry professionals from both public and private organizations, to work toward this goal by engaging communities interested in adapting their urban forests, completing vulnerability assessments, and developing tools and real-word examples of climate-informed management of urban forests. A pilot project is underway in the Chicago metropolitan area to test these ideas.

States: Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin

National Forest System Land: Midewin Tallgrass Prairie, IL

U.S. Forest Service Contacts:

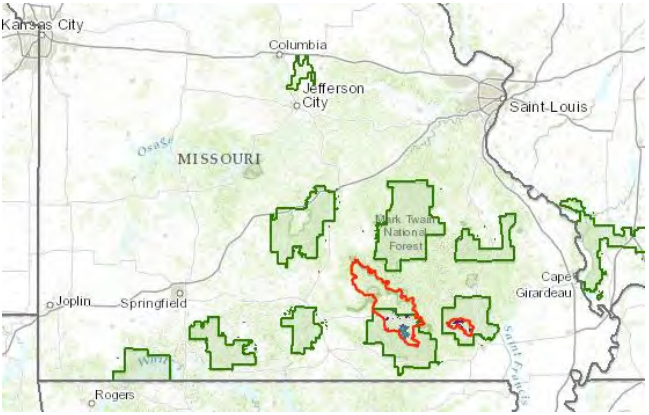
- Urban Forestry CCRF Coordinator (Northern Institute of Applied Climate Science and Eastern Region) – 651–649–5016
- St. Paul Field Representative (Northeastern Area) – 651–649–5276

Reference

Bailey, Robert G., comp. 1995. Description of the ecoregions of the United States. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Research Station. Fort Collins, CO. http://www.fs.fed.us/land/ecosysmgmt/index.html (20 September 2012).

Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program

A program within the U.S. Forest Service's priority of Accelerated Restoration, the purpose of the Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program is to encourage the collaborative, science-based ecosystem restoration of priority forest landscapes.



The program expands collaborative landscape partnerships to:

- Encourage ecological, economic, and social sustainability;
- Leverage local resources with national and private resources;
- Facilitate the reduction of wildfire management costs, through reestablishing natural fire regimes and reducing the risk of uncharacteristic wildfire;
- Demonstrate the degree to which various ecological restoration techniques achieve ecological and watershed health objectives; and
- Encourage utilization of forest restoration byproducts to offset treatment costs, to benefit local rural economies, and to improve forest health.

Lead U.S. Agency: Forest Service – National Forest System

States: Nationwide, must include National Forest System land

National Forest: Mark Twain, MO

- Missouri Pine – Oak Landscape Restoration funded for Fiscal Years 2012 – 2021

U.S. Forest Service Contact: Assistant Director for Planning and Landscape Scale Conservation (Eastern Region) – 414–297–3794

Community Engagement Through Recreation and Tourism

This recreation and tourism initiative works with local communities across a broad landscape on a forest-by-forest basis. Tourism and recreation are the focus for developing a vision towards sustainability within communities.

Goals:

- Satisfied and environmentally aware recreationists
- Viable tourism providers
- Sustainable land use

All efforts are currently in their pilot phase. They include the national forests highlighted in purple on the map, as well as the surrounding communities.

Lead U.S. Agency: Forest Service – National Forest System

States: Illinois, Maine, Minnesota, New Hampshire, Ohio

National Forests: Shawnee, IL; Superior, MN; Wayne, OH; White Mountain, NH

U.S. Forest Service Contact: Recreation Programs Manager (Eastern Region) – 414–297–3338

Forests on the Edge and Open Space Conservation

The Forests on the Edge project employs geographic information systems (GIS) techniques to identify areas across the country where private forest services, such as timber, wildlife habitat, and water quality, might be affected by factors such as development, fire, insect pests, and diseases. The project also seeks to understand where increases in housing density on lands adjacent to national forests and grasslands might affect recreation, wildlife, water resources, and other important public benefits.

Goals:

- Increase public awareness of the importance of conserving America's private forests and lands located around the nation's national forests and grasslands
- Create additional tools for strategic planning
- Provide better information to Congress and Forest Service partners on the value of and pressures on forests

An estimated 6,000 acres of open space are lost each day—a rate of 4 acres per minute. The Forests on the Edge project estimates that by 2030 sizable increases in development and housing density could affect 57 million acres of private forest land and 21 million acres of private rural lands near national forests and grasslands.

In 2007 the Forest Service developed an Open Space Conservation Strategy to identify how the agency can best work to conserve open space, with an emphasis on partnerships and collaborative approaches. The agency is interested in addressing the effects of the loss of private forests on National Forests and Grasslands and the surrounding landscape, and on forests in cities, suburbs, and towns.

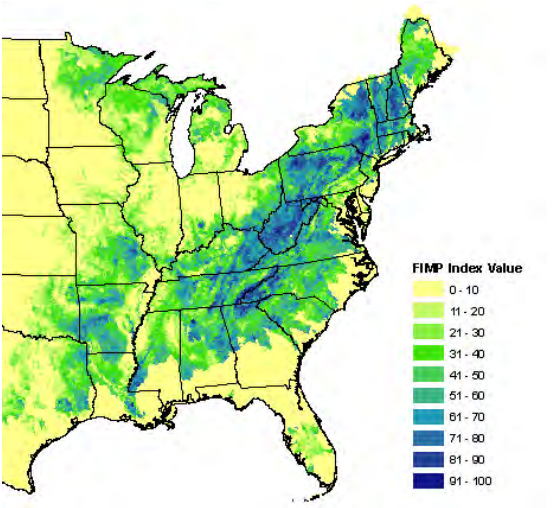
The Forest Service recognizes that it is only one entity among many striving to conserve open space. The agency's role in open space conservation is not to regulate development or land use, but to provide expertise, resources, information, and programs.

Lead U.S. Agency: Forest Service – State and Private Forestry

States: Nationwide

U.S. Forest Service Contact: GIS Specialist (Northeastern Area) – 603–868–7627

Forests to Faucets



The Forests to Faucets project uses geographic information systems (GIS) to model and map land areas of the continental United States that are most important to surface drinking water. The project assesses the role forests play in protecting these areas, and the extent to which these forests are threatened by development, insects and disease, and wildland fire.

The results of this assessment provide information that can identify areas of interest for protecting surface drinking water quality. The spatial dataset can be incorporated into broad-scale planning, such as State Forest Action Plans, and can help identify areas for further local analysis. In addition, these data can be incorporated into existing decision support tools that currently lack spatial data on important areas for surface drinking water.

This project also sets the groundwork for identifying watersheds where a payment-for-watershed-services project may be an option for financing conservation and management of forest lands. On a macro scale, the Forests to Faucets data identify areas that supply surface drinking water, have consumer demand for this water, and are facing significant development threats—all important criteria for successful payment-for-watershed-services initiatives.

In perhaps its most important role, this work can serve as an education tool to illustrate the link between forests and provision of surface drinking water—a key watershed-based ecosystem service.

Lead U.S. Agency: Forest Service – State and Private Forestry

States: Nationwide

U.S. Forest Service Contact: GIS Specialist (Northeastern Area) – 603–868–7627

Forests, Water, and People

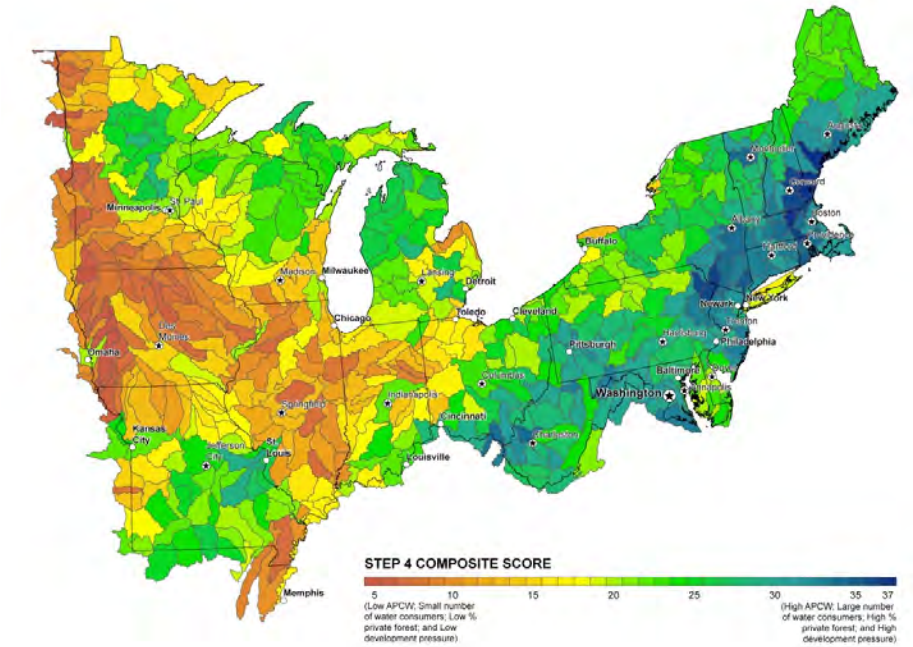
The Forests, Water, and People analysis uses maps produced in a geographic information system (GIS), to highlight the connection between forests and the protection of surface drinking water quality.

This connection of "forest to faucet" is vital to people in the Northeast and Midwest. Forests are the crucial first barrier to protection of drinking water, and managing forests for source water protection is becoming more important as the population and water demand increase. Approximately 50 to 75 percent of the region's population relies on surface water as their municipal drinking water source—more than 52 million people receive clean drinking water from nearly 1,600 community water systems. These water supplies are protected largely by private forest lands. This analysis identifies these water supplies and the forests that protect them.

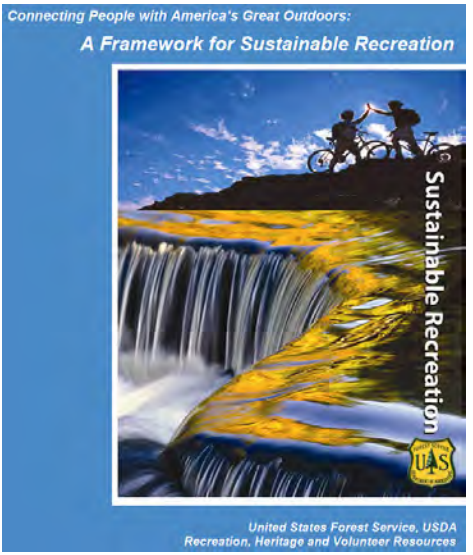
Lead U.S. Agency: Forest Service – Northeastern Area

States: Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, West Virginia, Wisconsin

U.S. Forest Service Contact: GIS Specialist (Northeastern Area) – 603–868–7627



Framework for Sustainable Recreation


Connecting People with America's Great Outdoors:
A Framework for Sustainable Recreation
Sustainable Recreation
United States Forest Service, USDA
Recreation, Heritage and Volunteer Resources

The Framework for Sustainable Recreation is a U.S. Forest Service framework to help shape recreation's role in promoting forest and grassland health, while advancing the vitality of communities adjacent to National Forests.

The growing challenge of sustaining outdoor recreation opportunities requires a clear national vision and a bold strategy to meet the environmental, social, and economic needs of present and future generations. Any management direction that is chosen cannot depend solely on appropriated funding to meet constituents' needs.

This strategy will help unite diverse interests, create and strengthen partnerships, focus scarce resources on mission-driven priorities, connect recreation benefits to communities, provide for changing urban populations, and—most importantly—sustain and expand the benefits to America that quality recreation opportunities provide.

The framework will strive to:

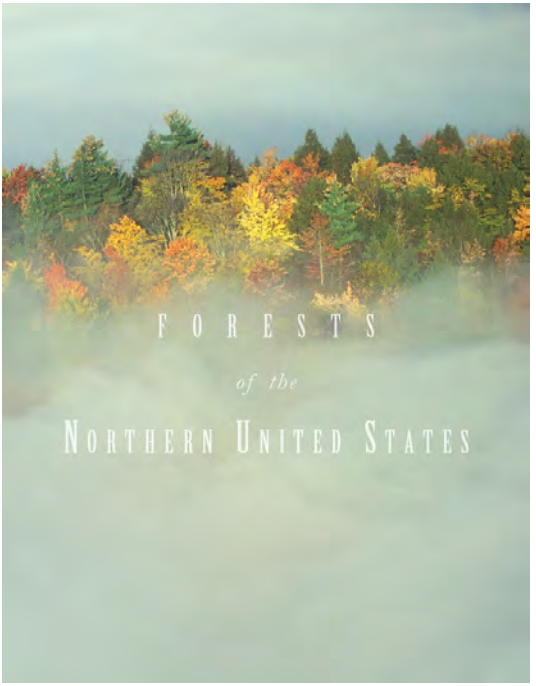
- Provide a diverse range of quality natural and cultural resource-based recreational opportunities in partnership with people and communities.
- Protect the natural, cultural, and scenic environment for present and future generations to enjoy.
- Partner with public and private recreation benefit providers to meet public needs and expectations.
- Perform and plan by implementing systems and processes to ensure effective decisions, sound investments, and accountability; collaborative approaches to integrated solutions across the landscape; and enhanced professionalism of our workforce.

Lead U.S. Agency: Forest Service – National Forest System

States: Nationwide, all National Forest System lands and surrounding communities

U.S. Forest Service Contact: Organizational Development Specialist (Washington Office) – 520–903–8800

Northern Forest Futures Project



The Northern Forest Futures Project is a window on tomorrow's forests, revealing how today's trends and choices can change the future landscape of the Northeast and Midwest.

Using the latest inventory data and scientific projections, the Northern Forest Futures Project helps decisionmakers to visualize what's here today and what might happen tomorrow.

Ultimately, this project informs sustainable management of public and private forests in the Northeastern and Midwestern United States.

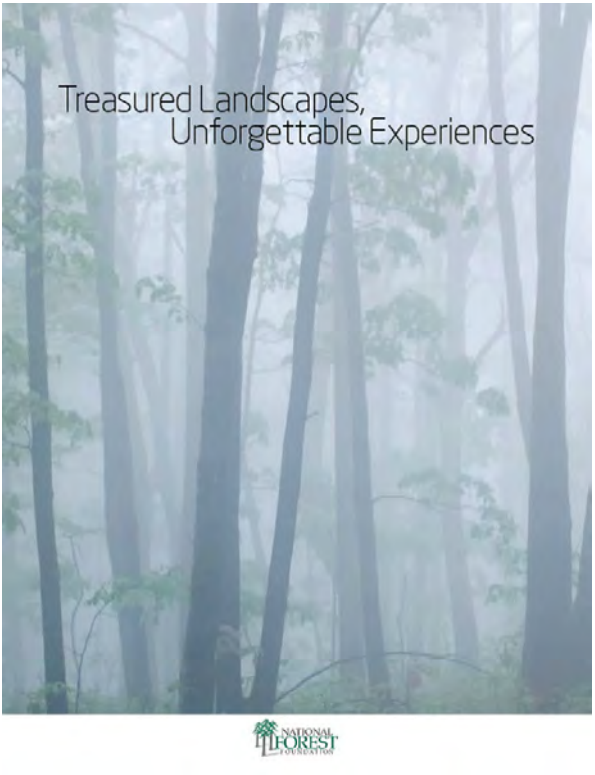
Lead U.S. Agency: Forest Service – Northern Research Station

States: Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, West Virginia, Wisconsin

U.S. Forest Service Contacts:

- Assistant Director for Communications and Science Delivery (Northern Research Station) – 651–649–5031
- FIA Program Manager (Northern Research Station) – 651–649–5132
- Communications Director (Northeastern Area) – 651–649–5296
- Regional Planner (Northeastern Area) – 603–868–7737

Treasured Landscapes – National Forest Foundation Conservation Campaign



With millions of acres in need of restoration and millions of people unaware of how National Forests enrich their lives, the National Forest Foundation (NFF) set forth on a campaign of restoration. NFF is working to restore damaged forests and restore Americans' connection to these public lands.

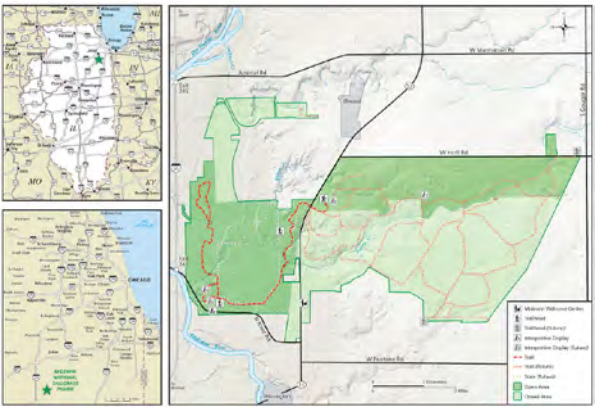
The campaign goals to "Revitalize Our Forests" and "Strengthen Our Natural Connection" include these actions:

- Implement stewardship projects that nurture more resilient forest ecosystems
- Restore landscapes damaged by wildfire, insects, disease, and natural disasters, to provide scenic, watershed, wildlife, and carbon sequestration benefits
- Invest in the strength of communities of interest and communities of place, helping people to convert their passion for forests into meaningful and sustainable conservation actions
- Help the American public to fully understand, savor, and appreciate all that the National Forests have to offer, building lasting connections with the lands that give us clean air and water, diversity of life, and outdoor recreation opportunities

Lead Organizations: National Forest Foundation, Forest Service – National Forest System

States: Nationwide; National Forest-specific projects detailed below

Midewin Tallgrass Prairie Restoration



About 60 miles southwest of Chicago sits a remnant landscape that is one of the last of its kind. This land once housed part of the former Joliet Army Ammunition Plant. It is now home to a large-scale effort, led by the Forest Service, to restore the native prairie ecosystem.

Here in 1996 the first national tallgrass prairie in the country—the Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie—was established.

Although Illinois still is known as the Prairie State, less than 0.01 percent of Illinois' original 21 million acres of prairie remains. What once was a vast sea of rich prairie now survives only as tiny, isolated patches. Many species of prairie plants and animals have either disappeared or are in rapid decline due to loss of habitat.

The designation of Midewin offers a rare opportunity to regain some of what has been lost, on a scale that can make a significant difference to the survival of threatened and endangered prairie species. Most of the landscape of Midewin is currently not tallgrass prairie. About 8,000 acres of the site are grazed by cattle or planted with crops. If farming was abandoned today, the land would not automatically revert to tallgrass prairie; instead, aggressive and mostly nonnative weeds, grasses, and shrubs would dominate.

Restoring prairie on crop fields requires replanting with immense amounts of seeds and plants of native prairie species. The National Forest Foundation will help bring much-needed resources to this effort, with the goal of revitalizing this very special landscape. The foundation will also focus on getting the public engaged with this unique landscape, through youth education, volunteer stewardship, community partnerships, and public outreach.

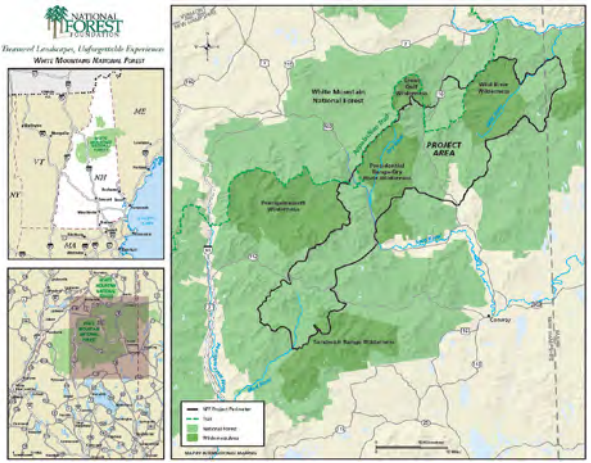
States: Illinois

National Forest System Land: Midewin Tallgrass Prairie, IL (green area on map)

U.S. Forest Service Contact: Prairie Supervisor (Midewin Tallgrass Prairie) – 815–423–6370

Tropical Storm Irene Restoration

Thanks to its proximity to Boston and other East Coast metropolises, New Hampshire's White Mountain National Forest is one of the most popular National Forests in the country. Hikers can explore over 1,200 miles of trails, including 100 miles of the Appalachian Trail. In fall colors splash the mountains, and leaf peepers comb the area for the best views.



On August 28, 2011, torrential rains and menacing winds from Tropical Storm Irene swept up the Atlantic Coast, dropping 3–10 inches of rain across the forest in just an hour. Woody debris, boulders, and sediments rushed down the rivers, eroding riverbanks, creating new stream channels, and flooding trails and roads.

When all was said and done, 169 sites on the forest sustained damage. The damages to trails, bridges, campgrounds, and recreation sites totalled $10 million. The White Mountain National Forest worked with the New Hampshire Department of Transportation and other partners to repair and reopen major roads and trails; but much work remains to repair and restore the damage to the trail system.

With a rich history of community involvement, the National Forest Foundation is working with the U.S. Forest Service and citizen groups to restore the White Mountain National Forest to its former state.

To help facilitate restoration, the National Forest Foundation will support trail systems that are clear, repaired, restored, or closed as appropriate, to ensure a safe, sustainable trail system for forest users. Efforts will also focus on supporting rivers, streams, and aquatic passages to increase watershed resiliency and fish habitat. With so much disturbance to the landscape of the forest, nonnative species pose a high threat. Early detection of these invasive species will help maintain native plant populations.

States: Maine, New Hampshire

National Forest: White Mountain, NH

U.S. Forest Service Contact: Forest Supervisor (White Mountain National Forest) – 603–536–6201

Upper Mississippi River Forest Partnership

The Upper Mississippi River Forest Partnership was founded by the U.S. Forest Service, Northeastern Area State and Private Forestry, and the State Foresters of Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Illinois, Missouri, and Indiana.

The partnership focuses activities, demonstration projects, and cooperative programs on key watershed forestry issues in the Upper Mississippi River Basin: water pollution, loss of migratory bird habitat, and forest loss and fragmentation.

The partnership was created to build a watershed-wide approach to forestry efforts in the area. Its purposes include demonstrating how important forests are in healthy watersheds, assessing how forest conditions relate to water quality, promoting forestry solutions that cut the basin's sediment and nutrient losses, and developing and supporting forest restoration work in the basin.

The partnership does this in many ways, including these: strengthening coordination among the many Federal, State, and local units of government and conservation organizations concerned about the forests of the Upper Mississippi; implementing assessment and demonstration projects; and conducting educational efforts to address key issues.

Lead U.S. Agency: Forest Service – Northeastern Area

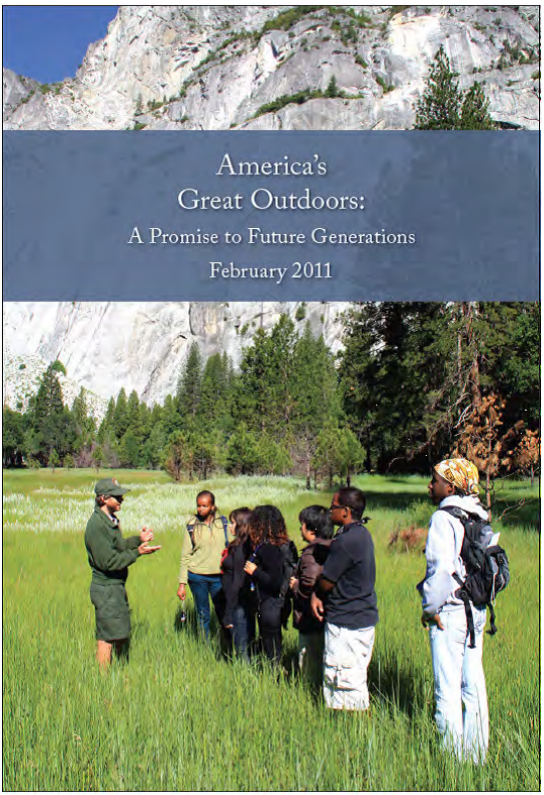
States: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, Wisconsin

U.S. Forest Service Contacts:

- St. Paul Field Representative (Northeastern Area) – 651–649–5276
- St. Paul Field Office Watershed Forestry Specialist (Northeastern Area) – 651–649–5221

Initiatives Led by Other Federal Agencies

America's Great Outdoors Initiative



President Obama launched the America's Great Outdoors (AGO) Initiative to develop a 21st Century conservation and recreation agenda. The premise is that lasting conservation solutions should rise from the American people—that the protection of our natural heritage is a nonpartisan objective shared by all Americans.

AGO recognizes that many of the best ideas come from outside Washington. Instead of dictating policies, this initiative turns to communities for local, grassroots conservation initiatives. Instead of growing bureaucracy, it calls for reworking inefficient policies and making the Federal Government a better partner with States, Tribes, and local communities.

Goals:

- Children can walk a short distance to an outdoor place to play, no matter where they live.
- Americans share responsibility to protect our natural and cultural heritage for posterity.
- Incentives and partnerships conserve rural land, including working forests.
- Public lands and waters are responsibly managed.
- Public and private lands and waters provide ecological benefits for people and wildlife.
- Communities collaborate to protect waterways for recreational and economic purposes.

Lead U.S. Agencies: U.S. Department of the Interior; Federal Interagency Council on Outdoor Recreation – Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Reclamation, Forest Service, Army Corps of Engineers, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

States: Nationwide; the following project focus areas located in States served by the Northeastern Area were identified for initial inclusion in the initiative by U.S. Department of Interior Secretarial Order No. 3323 (Salazar 2012), unless noted otherwise.

Landscapes of National Significance

- Connecticut River Watershed National Blueway (includes Silvio O. Conte National Fish and Wildlife Refuge, Northern Forests/New England Forests and Waters) (Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Hampshire including White Mountain National Forest, Vermont including Green Mountain National Forest)
- Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail (District of Columbia, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia*)
- Delaware National Bayshore (Delaware)
- Penobscot River Restoration Project (Maine)
- Great Lakes (Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, New York, Wisconsin)
- New England Forests and Waters (Northern Forest, Connecticut River, Keeping Maine's Forests – pilot/demonstration) (Maine, New Hampshire including White Mountain National Forest; Vermont including Green Mountain National Forest)
- Mississippi River Bluffs (Iowa, Illinois, Minnesota, Wisconsin) in America's Great Outdoors Fifty-State Report *(*U.S. Department of the Interior 2011)

Landscapes of Regional Significance

- Southern Prairie Potholes National Wildlife Refuge (Iowa)
- Loess Hills (Iowa)
- Hackmatack National Wildlife Refuge (Illinois, Wisconsin)
- Ozark Trail (State and National Forest System land, Missouri)
- Barnegat Bay Landscape Preservation and Recreation and Water Access (New Jersey)
- Grand Lake St. Mary's Watershed Wetland Development (Ohio)
- Northeast Ohio Wetland Restoration (Ohio)
- Ohio-to-Erie Trail Connection (Ohio)
- Ice Age Trail (Wisconsin)
- Canaan Valley National Wildlife Refuge (West Virginia)

Rivers and Water Trails

- Naugatuck River Greenway (Connecticut)
- Anacostia River Restoration (District of Columbia, Maryland)
- Nanticoke River-Captain John Smith Chesapeake Connecting Trail (Delaware)
- Big Sioux River Fish Passage and Recreation (Iowa, Minnesota, South Dakota*)
- Pecatonica River Water Trail (Illinois)
- Wabash River Healthy Rivers Initiative (Indiana)
- Blackstone River Valley Greenway (Massachusetts, Rhode Island)
- Chester River Captain John Smith Connecting Trail (Maryland)
- Detroit River Restoration (Michigan)
- Mississippi National River and Recreation Area (Minnesota)
- Minnesota River Blueway (upper corridor) (Minnesota, South Dakota*)
- Missouri-Mississippi Rivers Confluence Conservation and Recreation (Missouri)
- Delaware River Restoration (New Jersey)
- Bronx River National Water Trail (New York)
- Finger Lakes Water Trail (New York)
- Sulphur Springs Stream Restoration (Ohio)
- Lower Susquehanna River Initiative and Captain John Smith Connecting Water Trail (Pennsylvania)
- Winooski River Conservation for Flood Resilience (Vermont)
- Lake Michigan Water Trail (Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin)
- Milwaukee River Restoration and Fish Passage (Wisconsin)
- Ohio River Native Mussel Recovery (West Virginia)
- New River Gorge National River (West Virginia) in America's Great Outdoors Fifty-State Report *(*U.S. Department of the Interior 2011)

Great Urban Parks and Wildlife Areas

- Anacostia Riverwalk Trail (District of Columbia)
- Calumet Millennium Reserve (Illinois)
- Indiana Dunes (Indiana)
- Memorial Arch and Mississippi River in St. Louis (Jefferson National Expansion Memorial Revitalization) (Illinois, Missouri)
- New York City and Jamaica Bay Great Urban Park (New York)
- Harlem River and Roberto Clemente State Park (New York)
- Pittsburgh and Philadelphia Urban Greening (Pennsylvania)
- Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad National Historic Park (Maryland) in America's Great Outdoors Fifty-State Report *(*U.S. Department of the Interior 2011)

Early Pilot Sites

These sites were not included in U.S. Department of Interior Secretarial Order No. 3323 (Salazar 2012)

- Lake Champlain (Signature Landscape – New York, Vermont including Green Mountain National Forest)
- Saginaw Bay (Signature Watershed – Michigan including Huron-Manistee National Forest)
- White River Blueway (Arkansas,* Missouri including Mark Twain National Forest)
- Monongahela National Forest, WV

References

Salazar, Ken. Order No. 3323. Subject: Establishment of the America's Great Outdoors Program. 2012 September 12. 10 p. The Secretary of the Interior, Washington, DC. https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/migrated/news/pressreleases/upload/AGOordersigned.pdf (1 May 2015)

U.S. Department of the Interior. 2011. America's Great Outdoors fifty-state report. Washington, D.C. 124 p. http://atfiles.org/files/pdf/ago50statereport.pdf (1 May 2015).

Appalachian Regional Reforestation Initiative

The Appalachian Regional Reforestation Initiative (ARRI) is a coalition of groups, including citizens, the coal industry, and government dedicated to restoring forests on coal mined lands in the Eastern United States.

ARRI was established in early 2004 with the formation of the Core Team. The team's responsibilities include outreach, trainings, event planning, monthly meetings to discuss progress reports, and new strategies, among other things.

One of the Core Team's first missions was to develop a "Statement of Mutual Intent" in order to clarify the goals of the initiative and to make a pledge between the Core Team Members and new partners to promote the reestablishment of forestland on mine sites in Appalachia.

Then in March 2005 the ARRI Science Team was formed. The team is comprised of individuals active in forestry research from across the country, including academia, soil scientists, plant biologists, foresters, and others whose function is to improve the science behind ARRI.

ARRI advocates using a technique known as the Forestry Reclamation Approach to plant trees on reclaimed coal mined lands. Highly productive forestland can be created on reclaimed mine lands under existing laws and regulations using the Forestry Reclamation Approach.

Goals:

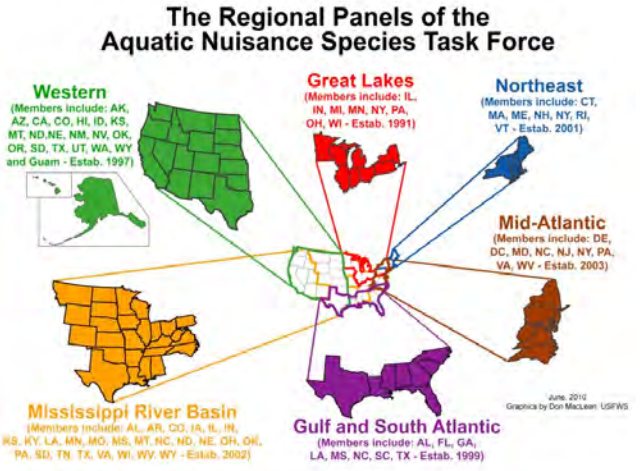
- Plant more high-value hardwood trees on reclaimed coal mined lands in Appalachia
- Increase the survival rates and growth rates of planted trees
- Expedite the establishment of forest habitat through natural succession

Lead U.S. Agency: Geological Survey – Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement

States: Kentucky,* Maryland, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee,* West Virginia, Virginia*

U.S. Forest Service Contact: Research Soil Scientist (Northern Research Station) – 304–285–1520

Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force


The Regional Panels of the
Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force
Western
(Members include: AK, AZ, CA, CO, HI, ID, KS, MT, ND,NE, NM, NV, OK, OR, SD, TX, UT, WA, WY and Guam - Estab. 1997)
Great Lakes
(Members include: IL, IN, MI, MN, NY, PA, OH, WI - Estab. 1991)
Northeast
(Members include: CT, MA, ME, NH, NY, RI, VT - Estab. 2001)
Mid-Atlantic
(Members include: DE, DC, MD, NC, NJ, NY, PA, VA, WV - Estab. 2003)
Mississippi River Basin
(Members include: AL, AR, CO, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, OH, OK, PA, SD, TN, TX, VA, WI, WV, WY - Estab. 2002)
Gulf and South Atlantic
(Members include: AL, FL, GA, LA, MS, NC, SC, TX - Estab. 1999)
June, 2010
Graphics by Don MacLean, USFWS

Aquatic nuisance species are aquatic and terrestrial organisms introduced into new habitats throughout the United States and other areas of the world, that produce harmful impacts on aquatic natural resources in these ecosystems and on the human use of these resources.

The Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS) Task Force is an intergovernmental organization dedicated to preventing and controlling these species, and implementing the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990. The various mandates were expanded later with the passage of the National Invasive Species Act in 1996. The Task Force consists of 13 Federal agency representatives and 12 ex officio members, and is co-chaired by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. The Task force coordinates governmental efforts dealing with ANS in the United States with those of the private sector and other North American interests, via regional panels and issue specific committees and work groups.

Lead U.S. Agencies: Fish and Wildlife Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Environmental Protection Agency, Bureau of Land Management, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Army Corps of Engineers, Geological Survey, National Park Service, Forest Service, Department of State, Bureau of Reclamation, Coast Guard, Department of Transportation Maritime Administration

States: Nationwide, including the following regional initiatives:

- Great Lakes Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species
- Mid-Atlantic Panel on Aquatic Invasive Species
- Mississippi River Basin Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species
- Northeast Aquatic Nuisance Species Panel

Great Lakes Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species

The mission of the Great Lakes Panel is to coordinate the development of education, research, and policy, to prevent new aquatic invasive species from entering the Great Lakes basin, and to control and mitigate aquatic nuisance species populations already established. The panel is directed to perform the following tasks:

- Identify Great Lakes priorities
- Assist with and make recommendations to the national Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS) Task Force
- Coordinate exotic species program activities in the region
- Advise public and private interests on control efforts
- Submit an annual report to the ANS Task Force describing prevention, research, and control activities in the Great Lakes Basin

States and Provinces: Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Ontario,* Quebec*

U.S. Forest Service Contact: Aquatic Ecologist (Eastern Region) – 414–297–1749

Mid-Atlantic Panel on Aquatic Invasive Species

The Mid-Atlantic Panel on Aquatic Invasive Species works to prevent the introduction and spread of aquatic invasive species through science and management, policy, and education and outreach activities and initiatives.

The panel helps State, Federal, and local agencies, nonprofit organizations, and private landowners in the Mid-Atlantic States to tackle aquatic invasive species issues by doing the following:

- Identifying and prioritizing regional issues,
- Coordinating local aquatic invasive species programs,
- Assisting the Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force in coordinating Federal programs that promote effective methods of preventing and managing aquatic invasive species introductions.

States: Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina,* Pennsylvania, Virginia,* West Virginia

Mississippi River Basin Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species

The Mississippi Interstate Cooperative Resource Association has hosted the Mississippi River Basin Panel (MRBP) on Aquatic Nuisance Species since 2003, under the oversight of the national Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force headquartered in Washington, DC. The MRBP is one of six regional panels established by the ANS Task Force to coordinate governmental efforts to prevent and manage introductions of aquatic nuisance species in the United States with those of the private sector and other North American interests.

The MRBP project area includes the entire Mississippi River Basin, the largest watershed in the nation, covering 1.25 million square miles and draining 41 percent of the continental United States.

Lead Organizations: Mississippi Interstate Cooperative Resource Association, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service – Midwest Region

States: Alabama,* Arkansas,* Colorado,* Georgia,* Idaho,* Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas,* Kentucky,* Louisiana,* Minnesota, Mississippi,* Missouri, Montana,* Nebraska,* New Mexico,* North Carolina,* North Dakota,* Ohio, Oklahoma,* Pennsylvania, South Dakota,* Tennessee,* Texas,* Virginia,* West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming*

U.S. Forest Service Contact: Regional Fish and Aquatic Ecology Program Leader (Eastern Region) – 414–297–3431

Northeast Aquatic Nuisance Species Panel

The Northeast Aquatic Nuisance Species Panel's mission is to protect the marine and freshwater resources of the Northeast from invasive aquatic nuisance species, through commitment and cohesive coordinated action. The panel was established in 2001 as the fourth regional panel established under the auspices of the national Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force.

The panel addresses issues and concerns relative to the freshwater and marine resources of its member States. The panel's members represent State, provincial, and Federal governments; academia; commercial and recreational fishing interests; recreational boaters; commercial shipping; power and water utilities; environmental organizations; aquaculture; nursery and aquarium trades; Tribal concerns; lake associations; and the bait industry.

States and Provinces: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont, New Brunswick,* Nova Scotia,* Quebec*

Chesapeake Bay Program

The Chesapeake Bay Watershed, the largest estuary in North America, covers 64,000 square miles and includes over 150 rivers and streams that drain into the Bay. While the health of the Chesapeake Bay has improved since the 1970s, excess nutrients and sediment continue to adversely affect water quality in the Bay and its tributaries. With almost 30 percent of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed made up of agricultural land, over 83,000 farms in the region are responsible for more than $10 billion of agricultural production annually. A thriving and sustainable agricultural sector is critical to restoring the Chesapeake.

The Chesapeake Bay Program is a regional partnership that leads and directs bay restoration and protection. Bay program partners include Federal and State agencies, local governments, nonprofit organizations, and academic institutions. Partners use their own resources to implement restoration and protection activities. Partners work together through the Bay Program's goal teams, workgroups, and committees to collaborate, share information, and set goals. Several written agreements have guided the partnership's pollution reduction and ecosystem restoration efforts.

- Adaptive management is an ongoing, science-based process through which the Chesapeake Bay Program plans, implements, and evaluates its restoration efforts.
- The Chesapeake Bay Program was built upon the idea of collaboration. The Bay Program partnership brings together leaders and experts to achieve a shared vision of a restored Bay.
- The Chesapeake Bay Program has made significant accomplishments since its formation, becoming a regional, national, and international leader in ecosystem science, modeling, and restoration partnerships.

Lead Organizations: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; several State, Federal, academic, and nonprofit organization partners, including U.S. Forest Service – Northeastern Area

States: Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia,* West Virginia

National Forest: Monongahela, WV

U.S. Forest Service Contact: Chesapeake Watershed Forestry Coordinator (Northeastern Area) – 410–267–5706

Cooperative Weed Management Areas

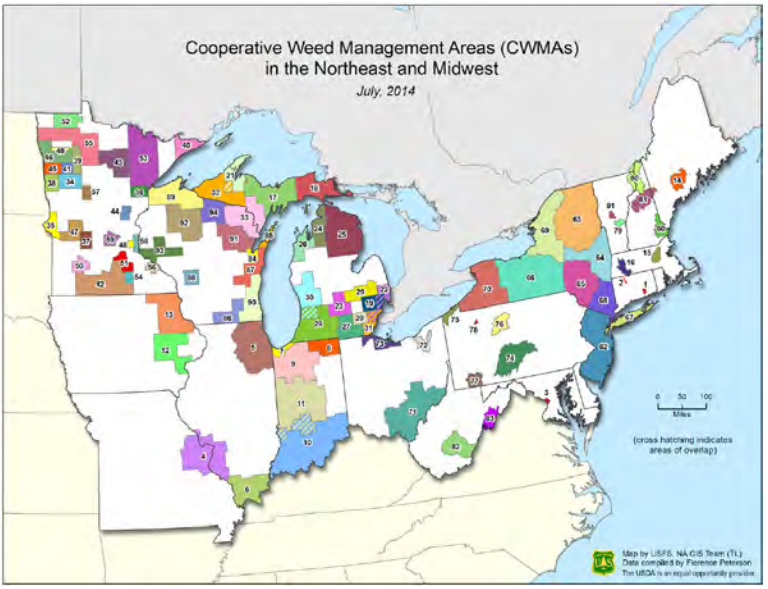
Communities of landowners are joining with local, State, and Federal partners to prevent and manage invasive plants and support healthy ecosystems, by organizing cooperative weed management areas (CWMAs) across the United States. CWMAs may have different names in different parts of the country, for example, Partnerships for Regional Invasive Species Management (PRISMs) in New York or Cooperative Invasive Species Management Areas (CISMAs) in Florida. The U.S. Forest Service has either organized or been involved in locally run associations—a collective group of State and Federal agencies, municipalities, Tribes, nonprofits, community organizations, and individuals, who come together to combat invasive plant species. CWMAs provide a forum to share information, collaborate on planning, and cooperate on management activities. The focus is on reducing or eliminating invasive species while raising awareness by engaging the public.

Lead Organization: Varies by CWMA

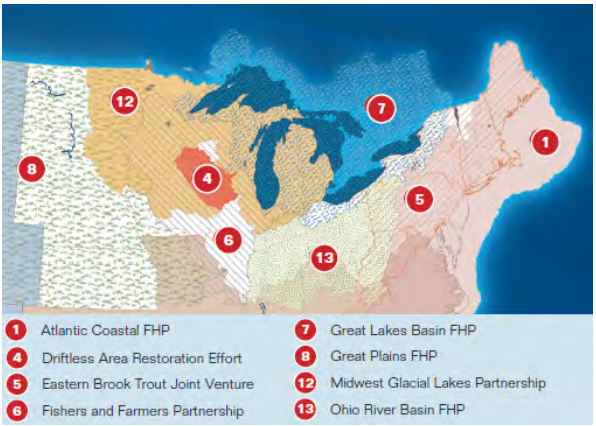
States: Nationwide; organizations vary in size, leadership, and area. Cooperative Weed Management Associations and contacts in States served by the Northeastern Area.

U.S. Forest Service Contacts:

- GIS Team Leader (Northeastern Area) – 603–868–7710
- Forest Health Specialist (Northeastern Area) – 603–868–7714
- Botany Nonnative Invasive Species Program Leader (Eastern Region) – 414–297–1189


Cooperative Weed Management Areas (CWMAs)
in the Northeast and Midwest
July, 2014
(cross hatching indicates areas of overlap)

Fish Habitat Partnerships



The National Fish Habitat Action Plan is an unprecedented attempt to address an unseen crisis for fish nationwide: loss and degradation of their watery homes. In 2001, an *ad hoc* group supported by the Sport Fishing and Boating Partnership Council explored the notion of developing a partnership effort for fish on the scale of what was done for waterfowl in the 1980s through the North American Waterfowl Management Plan. The waterfowl plan has worked wonders to boost waterfowl populations by forming strong local and regional partnerships to protect key habitats. The mission of the National Fish Habitat Action Plan is to protect, restore, and enhance the nation's fish and aquatic communities through partnerships that foster fish habitat conservation and improve the quality of life for the American people.

This mission will be achieved by:

- Supporting existing fish habitat partnerships (FHPs) and fostering new efforts
- Mobilizing and focusing national and local support for achieving fish habitat conservation goals
- Setting national and regional fish habitat conservation goals
- Measuring and communicating the status and needs of fish habitats
- Providing national leadership and coordination to conserve fish habitats

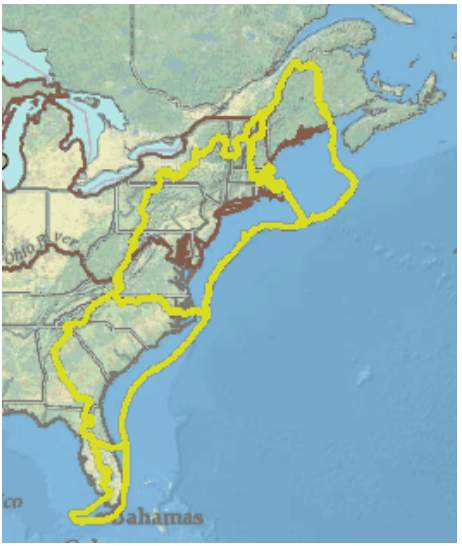
Goals:

- Protect and maintain intact and healthy aquatic systems
- Prevent further degradation of fish habitats that have been adversely affected
- Reverse declines in the quality and quantity of aquatic habitats to improve the overall health of fish and other aquatic organisms
- Increase the quality and quantity of fish habitats that support a broad natural diversity of fish and other aquatic species

Lead Organizations: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Forest Service, as well as several State and nongovernmental organizations

U.S. Forest Service Contact: Regional Fish and Aquatic Ecology Program Leader (Eastern Region) – 414–297–3431

Atlantic Coastal Fish Habitat Partnership



The Atlantic Coastal Fish Habitat Partnership is a coast-wide collaborative effort to accelerate conservation of habitat for native Atlantic coastal, estuarine-dependent, and diadromous fishes. The partnership consists of resource managers, scientists, and professionals representing 30 different State, Federal, Tribal, nongovernmental, and other entities. They work in areas stretching from Maine to the Florida Keys, and from the headwaters of coastally draining rivers to the edge of the continental shelf, with a focus in estuarine environments.

Focus of the partnership:

- Develop goals, objectives, action strategies, and priorities to guide fish habitat conservation efforts on the Atlantic coast.
- Secure, leverage, and distribute resources for fish habitat conservation projects.
- Coordinate the implementation of fish habitat conservation projects on coast-wide, regional, and local scales.
- Develop coast-wide scientific projects whose outcomes serve as decision-support tools for partners and other entities working to conserve aquatic habitat

States: Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida,* Georgia,* Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina,* Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina,* Vermont, Virginia,* West Virginia

U.S. Forest Service Contact: Regional Fish and Aquatic Ecology Program Leader (Eastern Region) – 414–297–3431

Driftless Area Restoration Effort Fish Habitat Partnership

The Driftless Area Restoration Effort, led by Trout Unlimited, is a geographically focused, locally driven, consensus-based effort to protect, restore, and enhance rivers and streams for fish and other aquatic life throughout the Driftless Area. This area is a unique, rugged region of the Midwest left uncovered during the last glacial period and so contains no glacial deposits or "drift." This broad partnership consists of Federal, State, and local governments; landowners; academic institutions; conservation organizations; sportsmen's groups; and others. Partners are working together to prioritize watershed focus areas and projects, implement actions with measurable success, build new partnerships and strengthen existing ones, leverage additional funds, and raise public awareness about Driftless Area natural resources through outreach and education.

This fish habitat partnership was formed in late fall 2005, to address the issues of habitat degradation, loss, and alteration of cold-water streams and of cool- and warm-water rivers.

States: Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin

U.S. Forest Service Contact: Regional Fish and Aquatic Ecology Program Leader (Eastern Region) – 414–297–3431

Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture Fish Habitat Partnership

The Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture Fish Habitat Partnership (FHP) is a unique partnership between State and Federal agencies, regional and local governments, businesses, conservation organizations, academia, scientific societies, and private citizens. It is the nation's first pilot project under the National Fish Habitat Partnership.

The Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture FHP is a geographically focused, locally driven, and scientifically based effort to protect, restore, and enhance aquatic habitat throughout the range of the Eastern brook trout. The partnership functions at multiple geographic and jurisdictional scales to achieve measurable conservation success, while securing the adoption of policies that favor aquatic habitat protection. The partnership also seeks to maximize the energies, expertise, and existing partnerships throughout Eastern brook trout range through a collaborative, nonregulatory framework.

Specifically, partners are working to do the following:

- Assess the status and trends of native trout from Georgia to Maine
- Identify data needed to facilitate species conservation and management
- Identify threats and potential solutions as part of a range-wide conservation strategy
- Prioritize actions based on measurable improvements for the least investment, in the shortest period of time, with a focus on common, critical habitat threats
- Track, quantify, and report protection and restoration progress and results
- Share information and successes with partners and Congress
- Develop additional funding, including nontraditional sources
- Develop, implement, and manage a public outreach, education, and advocacy campaign

States: Connecticut, District of Columbia, Georgia,* Kentucky,* Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina,* Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina,* Tennessee,* Vermont, Virginia,* West Virginia

National Forests: Allegheny, PA; Green Mountain, VT; Finger Lakes, NY (Battenkill River watershed); Monongahela, WV; White Mountain, NH

U.S. Forest Service Contact: Regional Fish and Aquatic Ecology Program Leader (Eastern Region) – 414–297–3431

Fishers and Farmers Fish Habitat Partnership for the Upper Mississippi River Basin

Fishers and Farmers Fish Habitat Partnership for the Upper Mississippi River Basin is a self-directed group of nongovernmental agricultural and conservation organizations, Tribal organizations, and State and Federal agencies working to achieve the partnership's mission: " to support locally-led projects that add value to farms while restoring aquatic habitat and native fish populations." The work of the Fishers and Farmers Partnership is guided by the National Fish Habitat Board, Midwest Fish Habitat Partnerships, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service staff.

Their vision is one in which landowners work together with conservationists and scientists to address the needs of their own farms, local streams, and the fishes of the basin. Lessons learned are shared with neighbors, participating organizations, and others outside the basin. Fish populations and habitats are monitored at project sites and downstream. The partnership helps landowners showcase successful practices. With a focus on mutual respect, dialog is cultivated between agricultural and environmental organizations throughout the Upper Mississippi River Basin. This leads to better use of resources, less duplication of effort, and measurable progress towards common goals.

States: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, South Dakota,* Wisconsin

National Forest: Shawnee, IL

U.S. Forest Service Contacts:

- St. Paul Field Office Watershed Forestry Specialist (Northeastern Area) – 651–649–5221
- Regional Fish and Aquatic Ecology Program Leader (Eastern Region) – 414–297–3431
- Natural Resources Program Manager (Shawnee National Forest) – 618–253–1016

Great Lakes Basin Fish Habitat Partnership

The Great Lakes Basin Fish Habitat Partnership is built on a foundation of numerous binational restoration and protection efforts. The partnership provides the leadership, collaboration, coordination, and additional resources necessary to bring a comprehensive, strategic approach to fish habitat conservation in the Great Lakes.

Priorities:

- Habitats—Small tributaries, large tributaries, connecting channels, and shoreline
- Threats—Alteration of natural streamflow, direct alterations of natural stream channels, increased water temperatures, loss of riparian habitat, loss of large woody debris, degradation and loss of wetland habitat, and loss of connectivity for fish movement

States and Provinces: Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, and Ontario*

National Forests: Chequamegon-Nicolet, WI; Finger Lakes, NY; Hiawatha, MI; Huron-Manistee, MI; Ottawa, MI; Superior, MN

U.S. Forest Service Contacts:

- Regional Fish and Aquatic Ecology Program Leader (Eastern Region) – 414–297–3431
- Aquatic Ecologist (Eastern Region) – 414–297–1749
- Research Aquatic Ecologist (Northern Research Station) – 218–326–7135

Great Plains Fish Habitat Partnership

The Great Plains Fish Habitat Partnership is a coalition of interests concerned for the future of the rivers and streams of the "Great Plains" of the north-central United States and the species that rely on its unique habitats. The partnership is comprised of individuals, groups, and organizations that recognize the values of these aquatic habitats to fish and aquatic species, communities, and people living in this area.

To address the loss of aquatic habitat in the Great Plains, this partnership focuses on conservation of remaining high quality prairie rivers and streams; restoration of highly degraded habitats, where feasible; and enhancement of habitats that have been moderately impaired. The progress of protection, restoration, and enhancement of the aquatic habitats will be monitored, and management actions that have been implemented will be assessed using an adaptive approach. This will allow resource managers to assimilate best management practices (BMPs) at multiple watershed scales, to benefit various populations of river and stream fishes. Outreach is a key activity of the partnership; BMPs will be publicized to Federal, Tribal, State, county, municipal, and private land managers for implementation across the Great Plains.

States: Colorado,* Iowa, Kansas,* Minnesota, Missouri, Montana,* Nebraska,* North Dakota,* South Dakota,* Wyoming*

National Forest: Mark Twain, MO

U.S. Forest Service Contacts:

- Regional Fish and Aquatic Ecology Program Leader (Eastern Region) – 414–297–3431
- Forest Hydrologist (Mark Twain National Forest) – 573–341–7488

Midwest Glacial Lakes Fish Habitat Partnership

The mission of the Midwest Glacial Lakes Fish Habitat Partnership is to protect, rehabilitate, and enhance sustainable fish habitats in glacial lakes of the Midwest, for the use and enjoyment of current and future generations. Lakes formed by glacial activity are a common feature on the Midwestern landscape. From small, productive potholes to large windswept walleye "factories," glacial lakes are an integral part of the communities within which they are found and, taken collectively, are a resource of national importance. Local economies depend on fisheries and their recreation value. Communities sometimes rely on them for dependable sources of water. Lakeshore property is more valuable than land off water. Despite this value, lakes are commonly treated more as a commodity rather than a natural resource susceptible to degradation.

Often viewed apart from the landscape they occupy, human activities on land—and in water—have compromised many of these systems. These threats can be grouped as the three C's: corn, cabins, and concrete. Many good conservation efforts are occurring in every State; however, the coordination of programs and exchange of information and successful actions does not occur to the fullest extent possible. This partnership is developing a regional strategy for addressing aquatic habitat protection and restoration in glacial lakes. Benefits of such an approach are many, not the least of which is the first regionally based assessment of glacial lakes. The results will make it possible to focus conservation activities and resources in areas that make the best use of limited funds. The partnership provides a forum for sharing programs, strategies, and techniques that have proven their worth but have not yet been applied at a larger, regional scale.

States: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, North Dakota,* Ohio, South Dakota,* Wisconsin

National Forests and National Forest System Land: Chequamegon-Nicolet, WI; Chippewa, MN; Huron-Manistee, MI; Midewin Tallgrass Prairie, IL; Ottawa, MI; Superior, MN

U.S. Forest Service Contacts:

- Regional Fish and Aquatic Ecology Program Leader (Eastern Region) – 414–297–3431
- Fish and Wildlife Program Manager (Chippewa National Forest) – 218–335–8629

Ohio River Basin Fish Habitat Partnership

The Ohio River Basin Fish Habitat Partnership (FHP) was formed to protect, restore, and enhance priority habitat for fish and mussels in the watersheds of the Ohio River Basin, for the benefit of the public.

The partnership encompasses all 981 miles of the Ohio River main stem (the second largest river in the United States as measured by annual discharge) and 143,550 square miles of the watershed. A decision was made to exclude the Tennessee-Cumberland sub-basin, to limit overlap with the Southeast Aquatic Resources FHP. The Ohio River drainage contains at least 350 species of fish ranging from endemic darters and dace in the headwaters to a suite of great river fish (e.g., paddlefish, blue sucker, lake sturgeon, and shovelnose sturgeon), and more than 120 mussel species, including a number that are federally listed. These figures approach half of the freshwater fishes and over a third of all mussel species found in the United States. A number of the rivers in the Ohio River Basin also support outstanding smallmouth or spotted bass angling.

Fish and mussel habitat within the Ohio River Basin is imperiled, however, by a number of historic impacts and continuing threats, including mineral extraction, row crop agriculture, and livestock grazing. Within this context a group of approximately 50 representatives from State and Federal agencies, nongovernmental organizations, and universities within the Ohio River Basin initially coalesced into the Ohio River Basin FHP. Ultimately, they developed a list of specific strategic actions designed to do the following: protect healthy waters; restore natural variability in river and stream flows; reconnect fragmented stream habitat; reduce sedimentation, phosphorus, and nitrogen runoff; reduce other key pollutants or degrading environmental conditions (e.g., acid drainage, heavy metals, altered temperatures, or oxygen levels); and reduce the effect of invasive species.

States: Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky,* New York, North Carolina,* Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee,* Virginia,* West Virginia

National Forests: Allegheny, PA; Hoosier, IN; Monongahela, WV; Shawnee, IL; Wayne, OH

U.S. Forest Service Contacts:

- Regional Fish and Aquatic Ecology Program Leader (Eastern Region) – 414–297–3431
- Fish Biologist (Hoosier National Forest) – 812–547–9234

Southeast Aquatic Resources Fish Habitat Partnership

The Southeast Aquatic Resources Fish Habitat Partnership is a regional collaboration of natural resource and science agencies, conservation organizations, and private interests developed to strengthen the management and conservation of aquatic resources in the southeastern United States. The partnership will protect, conserve, and restore aquatic resources, including habitats throughout the Southeast, for the continuing benefit, use, and enjoyment of the American people.

Approach:

- Support and facilitation of on-the-ground and in-the-water science-based action to improve and protect aquatic habitats and resources.
- Focused habitat assessments, restoration, monitoring and evaluation of some of the nation's most economically and socially significant aquatic habitats.

States: Alabama,* Arkansas,* Florida,* Georgia,* Kentucky,* Louisiana,* Mississippi,* Missouri, North Carolina,* Oklahoma,* South Carolina,* Tennessee,* Texas,* Virginia*

National Forest: Mark Twain, MO

U.S. Forest Service Contact: Forest Hydrologist (Mark Twain National Forest) – 573–341–7488

Great Lakes Lakewide Action and Management Plans

A Lakewide Action and Management Plan (LAMP) is a plan of action to assess, restore, protect, and monitor the ecosystem health of a Great Lake. It is used to coordinate the efforts of all the government, Tribal, and nongovernment partners working to improve the lake ecosystem. A public consultation process is used to ensure that the LAMP addresses the public's concerns.

Lead U.S. Agency: Environmental Protection Agency

States: Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin

Lake Erie Lakewide Action and Management Plan

The Lake Erie ecosystem is unique. It is the shallowest and most biologically diverse of all the Great Lakes. The Lake Erie watershed is home to over 11 million people, supports one of the largest freshwater fisheries in the world, and provides many recreational and tourism opportunities due to its numerous beaches and extensive wetland complexes. The lake and its surrounding watershed are sensitive to pressures from urban and rural land uses, such as excessive nutrient inputs, habitat loss and degradation, and the introduction of nonnative invasive species.

States and Provinces: Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Ontario*

U.S. Forest Service Contact: Landscape Architect (Northeastern Area) – 304–285–1547

Lake Huron Binational Partnership

The Lake Huron Binational Partnership focuses on pollution reduction activities in Areas of Concern, and directly pursues on-the-ground activities to protect high-quality habitat within the Lake Huron basin. Existing stakeholder and agency forums are used as much as possible to support the goals of the partnership. It maintains a close association with the Remedial Action Plan efforts in Areas of Concern, the Great Lakes Fishery Commission's Lake Huron and Lake Huron Technical Committees, the State of the Lakes Ecosystem Conference, and domestic efforts that support the partnership.

States and Provinces: Michigan, Ontario*

U.S. Forest Service Contact: St. Paul Field Office Watershed Forestry Specialist (Northeastern Area) – 651–649–5221

Lake Michigan Lakewide Action and Management Plan

The vision for the Lake Michigan Lakewide Action and Management Plan (LAMP) is one of "a sustainable Lake Michigan ecosystem that ensures environmental integrity and that supports and is supported by economically viable, healthy human communities." The goal is "to restore and protect the integrity of the Lake Michigan ecosystem through collaborative, place-based partnerships."

The LAMP is a collaborative effort to meet this vision and goal through monitoring the changing environmental conditions and adapting management strategies. Efforts focus on issues that impact the ability of people to eat and drink from, as well as swim in, Lake Michigan.

States: Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin

U.S. Forest Service Contact: Aquatic Ecologist (Eastern Region) – 414–297–1749

Lake Ontario Lakewide Management Plan

The Lake Ontario Lakewide Management Plan's Binational Biodiversity Conservation Strategy has two key elements:

1. Integration of action priorities into existing programs and "place-based" planning activities, especially within key watersheds—an activity best done by local governments and organizations.
2. Regional coordination of lake-wide biodiversity monitoring and restoration activities.

Given the enormous amount of work needed to restore and protect Lake Ontario's biodiversity, the management plan recognizes that the key to success lies in the ability to build and foster cooperative partnerships throughout the Lake Ontario basin.

States and Provinces: New York, Ontario*

Lake Superior Binational Program

Lake Superior is unique—a vast resource of fresh water that has not experienced the same levels of development, urbanization, and pollution as the other Great Lakes. Due to this uniqueness, the International Joint Commission recommended that Lake Superior be designated as a demonstration area where discharges and emissions of toxic substances that are long-lived in the environment and build up in the bodies of humans and wildlife would not be permitted.

In response, Canada and the United States developed a Binational Program to Restore and Protect the Lake Superior Basin. This program has focused on the entire ecosystem of Lake Superior, its air, land, water, wildlife, and human population. Government and Tribal agencies and interested groups from Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Ontario, along with both Federal governments, have taken steps that will restore degraded areas and protect this unique headwater lake through activities such as pollution prevention, enhanced regulatory measures, and cleanup programs. With citizen and stakeholder partners, most notably the Lake Superior Binational Forum, objectives have been identified and a vision established for the cleanup and protection of the lake.

States and Provinces: Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Ontario*

National Forest: Ottawa, MI

U.S. Forest Service Contact: Supervisory Hydrologist (Ottawa National Forest) – 906–932–1330

Land and Water Conservation Fund

Created by Congress in 1964, the Land and Water Conservation Fund provides money to Federal, State, and local governments, to purchase land, water, and wetlands for the benefit of all Americans. From majestic forests and snowcapped mountains, to wild rivers and stunning beaches, these acquisitions become part of national forests, parks, and recreation areas, or are preserved in private ownership by protecting them from commercial development. Land is bought from landowners at fair-market value (unless the owner chooses to offer the land as a donation or at a lower price), or conservation easements are put in place that restrict commercial development while keeping the land in private ownership. The fund receives money mostly from fees paid by companies drilling offshore for oil and gas. Other funding sources include the sale of surplus Federal real estate and taxes on motorboat fuel. This fund supports the U.S. Forest Service Forest Legacy Program and related State and nongovernmental organization land purchases and conservation easements.

Lands and waters purchased through the fund are used to:

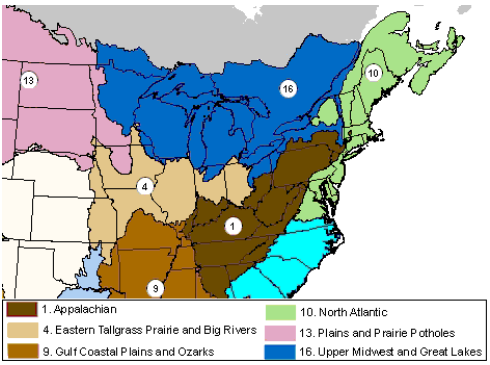
- Provide recreational opportunities
- Provide clean water
- Preserve wildlife habitat
- Enhance scenic vistas
- Protect archaeological and historical sites
- Maintain the pristine nature of wilderness areas

Lead U.S. Agencies: National Park Service, Forest Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, Federal Interagency Collaborative Fund

States: Nationwide

Landscape Conservation Cooperatives

Protecting the nation's natural and cultural resources and landscapes is essential to sustaining our health and quality of life. Humans, fish, and wildlife rely on clean water and healthy rivers, streams, wetlands, forests, grasslands, and coastal areas in order to thrive. Managing the landscapes that provide natural and cultural resources has become increasingly challenging.



The U.S. Department of the Interior launched the Landscape Conservation Cooperatives (LCCs) to better integrate science and management to address climate change and other landscape scale issues. By building a network that is holistic, collaborative, adaptive, and grounded in science, LCCs work to ensure sustainability of our economy, land, water, wildlife, and cultural resources.

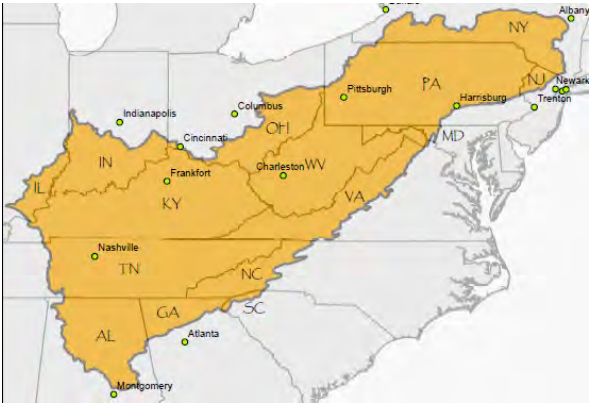
The 22 LCCs collectively form a network of resource managers and scientists who share a common need for scientific information and interest in conservation. Each LCC brings together Federal, State, and local governments along with Tribes and First Nations, nongovernmental organizations, universities, and interested public and private organizations. Partners work collaboratively to identify best practices, connect efforts, identify science gaps, and avoid duplication through conservation planning and design.

Lead U.S. Agencies: Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, Forest Service, Natural Resources Conservation Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Forest Service Contacts:

- Director for Rangelands Management (Washington Office) – 202–205–1185
- Director for the National Agroforestry Center (Washington Office) – 202–205–0837
- Assistant Director for Planning and Landscape Scale Conservation (Eastern Region) – 414–297–3794
- Project Leader (Northern Research Station) – 573–875–5341 x224
- Research Fisheries Biologist (Northern Research Station) – 413–545–1765
- Director (Northern Institute of Applied Climate Science) – 906–482–6303 x20
- Assistant Director (Northern Research Station) – 651–649–5216

Appalachian Landscape Conservation Cooperative



The formation of the Appalachian Landscape Conservation Cooperative (LCC) serves as the mechanism to bring conservation scientists and managers from various organizations and institutions together, to identify shared areas of interest, develop the tools and products necessary for action, and coordinate conservation delivery. The Appalachian LCC is administered through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Northeast Regional Office and is coordinated by staff based at Virginia Tech University in Blacksburg, VA.

The Appalachian LCC is a science and management partnership to protect the valued resources and biological diversity of the Appalachian region, sustain the benefits provided by healthy and resilient ecosystems to human communities, and help natural systems adapt to large landscape-level stressors and those stressors that may be magnified by the changing climate. The mission of the Appalachian LCC is to achieve sustainable landscape-level conservation in Appalachia through partnerships, shared resources, enhanced science-based management capacity, landscape-level planning, and support for conservation actions and research as part of a national network.

States: Alabama,* District of Columbia, Georgia,* Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky,* Maryland, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina,* Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina,* Tennessee,* Virginia,* West Virginia

National Forests: Allegheny, PA; Hoosier, IN; Monongahela, WV; Shawnee, IL; Wayne, OH; several Southern Region national forests*

U.S. Forest Service Contact: Forest Supervisor (Monongahela National Forest) – 304–636–1800

Eastern Tallgrass Prairie and Big Rivers Landscape Conservation Cooperative

While the Eastern Tallgrass Prairie and Big Rivers Landscape Conservation Cooperative (LCC) landscape is predominantly agricultural and in private ownership, the area also contains numerous State and federally managed tracts of land. Included are National Wildlife Refuges, State wildlife management areas, land trust parcels, and nature preserves, which provide habitat for a wide variety of aquatic and terrestrial wildlife species. Additionally, many of the agricultural practices and set-aside programs through the Federal Farm Bill have created wildlife habitat. Also, State and Federal programs create and conserve forested lands, usually in small fragmented woodlots that dot the agricultural landscape. This LCC contains portions of some of America's premier rivers, including the Mississippi, Missouri, Illinois, Wisconsin, Ohio, and Wabash, providing critical riverine corridor habitat for wildlife. This LCC is also home to a wide variety of natural lakes and reservoirs.

States: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas,* Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, Oklahoma,* Nebraska,* South Dakota,* Wisconsin

National Forest System Land: Midewin Tallgrass Prairie, IL

U.S. Forest Service Contacts:

- St. Paul Field Representative (Northeastern Area) – 651–649–5276
- Assistant Director (Northern Research Station) – 651–649–5216
- Project Leader (Northern Research Station) – 573–875–5341 x224

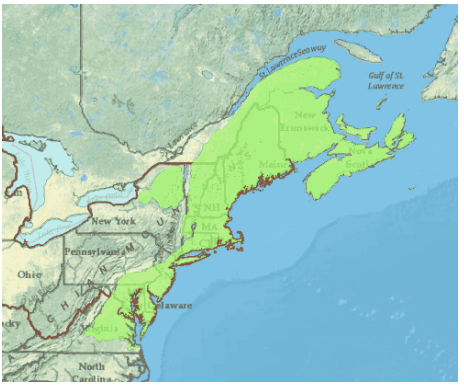
Gulf Coastal Plains and Ozarks Landscape Conservation Cooperative

The mission of the Gulf Coastal Plains and Ozarks Landscape Conservation Cooperative is to create a shared vision for sustainable natural and cultural resources in the face of a changing climate and other threats, with evaluation and refinement over time. The cooperative describes a unique geographic region, as well as a new kind of conservation partnership that conducts outreach and research, and develops tools that improve natural resource management. The goal is to focus coordinated action and eliminate duplication, to support shared conservation priorities across large connected areas, or landscapes.

States: Alabama,* Arkansas,* Florida,* Georgia,* Illinois, Kentucky,* Louisiana,* Mississippi,* Missouri, Oklahoma,* Tennessee,* Texas*

National Forests: Mark Twain, MO; Shawnee, IL; and several Southern Region national forests*

North Atlantic Landscape Conservation Cooperative



The North Atlantic Landscape Conservation Cooperative of private, State, Tribal, and Federal conservation communities works to address increasing land-use pressures and widespread resource threats and uncertainties, which are amplified by a rapidly changing climate. The partners and partnerships in the cooperative address these regional threats and uncertainties by agreeing on common goals for land, water, fish, wildlife, plant, and cultural resources, and by developing the scientific information and tools needed to prioritize and guide more effective conservation actions towards those goals.

States and Provinces: Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia,* New Brunswick,* and Quebec*

National Forests: Green Mountain, VT; White Mountain, NH

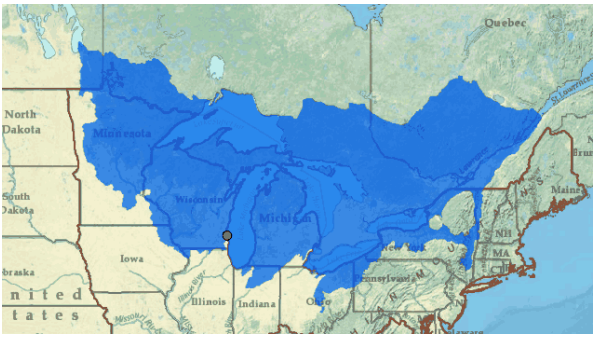
U.S. Forest Service Contact: Forest Supervisor (Green Mountain National Forest) – 802–747–6700

Plains and Prairie Potholes Landscape Conservation Cooperative

The Plains and Prairie Potholes Landscape Conservation Cooperative (LCC) is dedicated to the conservation of a landscape unparalleled in importance to a vast array of unique species whose populations are in steep decline. The LCC includes three main subunits—the Prairie Pothole Region, Northern Great Plains, and the riparian corridors of several major river systems, including the Missouri, the Yellowstone, and the Red River of the North. The LCC is poised to provide science needs from the perspective of land, resource, and conservation decisionmaking, and to provide support to partners to carry out impactful conservation actions.

States and Provinces: Iowa, Minnesota, Montana,* Nebraska,* North Dakota,* South Dakota,* Wyoming,* Alberta,* Manitoba,* Saskatchewan*

Upper Midwest and Great Lakes Landscape Conservation Cooperative



The Great Lakes are North America's largest freshwater resource. The Upper Midwest and Great Lakes Landscape Conservation Cooperative (LCC), established in 2010, focuses on a diverse range of fish, wildlife, and other natural resources that transcend State and international borders and include the Great Lakes, coastal wetlands, boreal forests, major river systems, and prairie-hardwood ecosystems. Many of these ecosystems surround heavily populated urban centers. The Upper Midwest and Great Lakes LCC envisions a conservation community that, while governed by their unique purposes and missions, collaborates on sustaining lands and waters that support natural and cultural resources and the services they provide. The mission of the LCC is to support and sustain this conservation community by facilitating communication, coordination, and collaboration, to bridge cutting-edge scientific research with natural resources management.

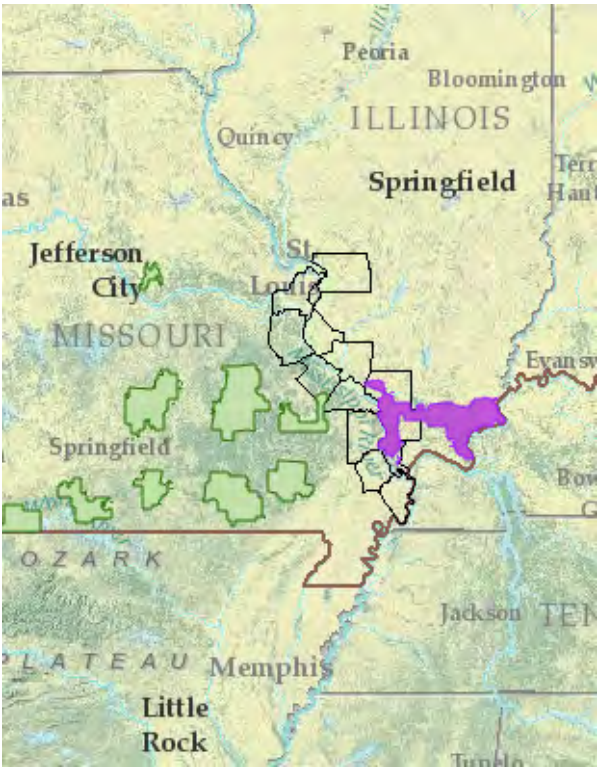
States and Provinces: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, and Ontario*

National Forests: Chequamegon-Nicolet, WI; Chippewa, MN; Finger Lakes, NY; Hiawatha, MI; Huron-Manistee, MI; Ottawa, MI; Superior, MN

U.S. Forest Service Contacts:

- Assistant Director for Planning and Landscape Scale Conservation (Eastern Region) – 414–297–3794
- Director (Northern Institute of Applied Climate Science) – 906–482–6303 x20

Middle Mississippi River Partnership



The Middle Mississippi River Partnership is a collaboration of 21 Federal and State agencies and nonprofit organizations with the common goal of restoring and enhancing the natural resources of the river corridor from St. Louis, MO, to Cairo, IL—a distance of 195 miles. The partnership is meeting this goal through public and private resource management, compatible economic development, private lands conservation, and education and outreach to residents of the region.

Lead U.S. Agencies: Army Corps of Engineers, Environmental Protection Agency, Fish and Wildlife Service, Forest Service, Geological Survey, Natural Resources Conservation Service

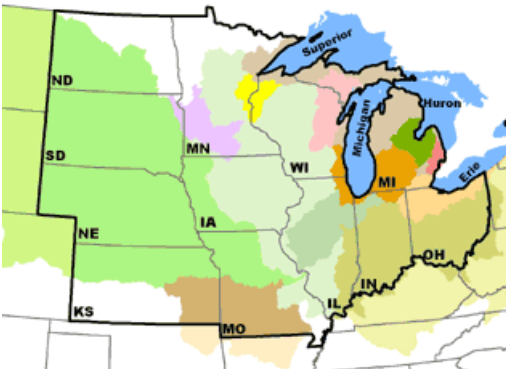
States: Illinois, Missouri

National Forest: Shawnee, IL (shaded area at the southern boundary of Illinois on map)

U.S. Forest Service Contacts:

- Forest Supervisor (Shawnee National Forest) – 618–253–1001
- Supervisory Wildlife Biologist (Shawnee National Forest) – 618–833–8576

Midwest Natural Resources Group



The Midwest Natural Resources Group was established in 1998 as a forum for Federal agency senior executives to proactively coordinate activities and to clearly establish the proper role of each Federal bureau in the Midwest, in relation to the Upper Mississippi River, Missouri River, Ohio River, and the Great Lakes watersheds. The group aims to achieve this overarching goal through enhanced communications, coordination, and collaboration on mutually recognized resource issues, and by providing timely interagency assistance where needed. Working together, the agencies represented by this group are committed to bringing results to the American public in the communities, towns, and farms of the Midwest.

Lead U.S. Agencies: Environmental Protection Agency, Army Corps of Engineers, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bureau of Land Management, Coast Guard, Farm Service Agency, Federal Aviation Administration, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Federal Highway Administration, Fish and Wildlife Service, Forest Service – Eastern Region, Geological Survey, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Park Service, Natural Resources Conservation Service

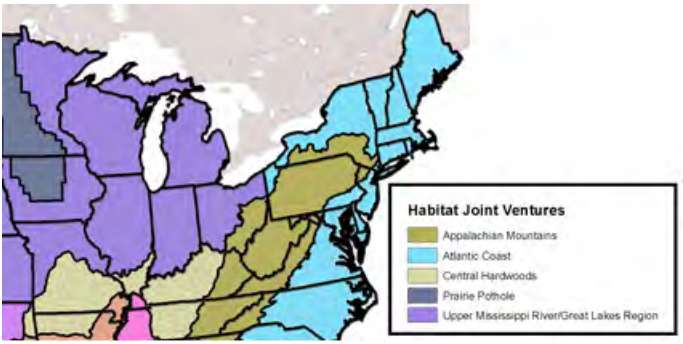
States: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas,* Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska,* North Dakota,* Ohio, South Dakota,* Wisconsin

- Root River Stewardship Council (Minnesota)—ongoing collaborative project

U.S. Forest Service Contacts:

- St. Paul Field Representative (Northeastern Area) – 651–649–5276
- Assistant Director for Planning and Landscape Scale Conservation (Eastern Region) – 414–297–3794

Migratory Bird Joint Ventures



In relation to Landscape Scale Conservation, a "joint venture" is a collaborative, regional partnership of government agencies, nonprofit organizations, corporations, Tribes, and individuals who conserve habitat for priority bird species, other wildlife, and people. Joint ventures bring these diverse partners together under the guidance of national and international bird conservation plans, to design and implement landscape-scale conservation efforts. Joint ventures have been widely accepted as the model for collaborative conservation in the 21st century. They use state-of-the-art science to ensure that a diversity of habitats is available to sustain migratory bird populations for the benefit of those species, other wildlife, and the public. Nationwide, 18 habitat-based joint ventures address the bird habitat conservation issues found within their geographic area.

Actions include these:

- Biological planning, conservation design, and prioritization
- Project development and implementation
- Monitoring, evaluation, and research
- Communications, education, and outreach
- Funding support for projects and activities

Lead U.S. Agencies: Fish and Wildlife Service – Division of Bird Habitat Conservation, Forest Service, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Geological Survey – Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement

States: Nationwide

Appalachian Mountains Joint Venture

The Appalachian Mountains provide a multitude of habitats that are essential for hundreds of breeding, migrant, and wintering bird species. The rugged terrain is dominated by forest and woodlands that span 15 States and contain several major eastern rivers that waterfowl rely upon. But historical and current land-use changes, environmental disturbances, and other factors are resulting in population declines of more than one-third of bird species that breed and winter in the region. Coordinated action among local, State, Federal, and other partners is essential to reverse these trends.

The Appalachian Mountains Joint Venture is comprised of State and Federal government agencies, nongovernmental organizations, universities, and industries that work together to prioritize and coordinate conservation activities, while building upon scientific knowledge. Through communication, planning, and conservation delivery, the joint venture works to ensure the long-term sustainability of native bird populations that breed in the Appalachian Mountains.

States: Alabama,* Georgia,* Kentucky,* Maryland, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina,* Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee,* Virginia,* West Virginia

National Forests: Monongahela, WV; Wayne, OH

Atlantic Coast Joint Venture

The Atlantic Coast Joint Venture brings together public and private agencies, conservation groups, and other partners focused on the conservation of habitat for native birds in the Atlantic Flyway of the United States, from Maine south to Puerto Rico. The habitats range from boreal forest and rocky coastlines to mangrove wetlands and coral reefs. Over 600 native bird species breed, migrate, and winter in the region. The mission of the Atlantic Coast Joint Venture is to provide a forum for Federal, State, regional, and local partners to coordinate and improve the effectiveness of bird conservation planning and implementation.

States: Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida,* Georgia,* Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina,* Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico,* Rhode Island, South Carolina,* Vermont, Virginia*

Central Hardwoods Joint Venture

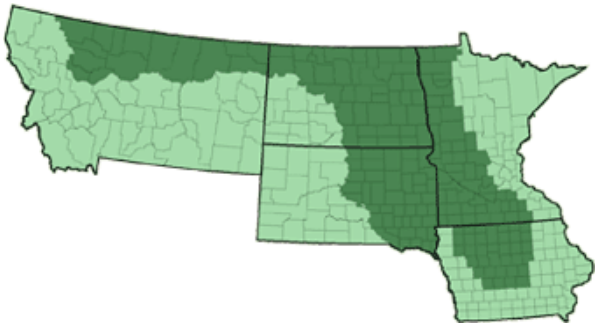
The Central Hardwoods Joint Venture is a partnership of State and Federal government agencies and nongovernmental organizations that work together to ensure the long-term viability of native bird populations. They concentrate conservation efforts in the Central Hardwoods Bird Conservation Region, including the Ozark Highlands, Boston Mountains, and Interior Lowland Plateaus.

The area comprises 75 million acres of rolling hills covered primarily with hardwood forests, interspersed with glades and woodlands, and crisscrossed by deep river valleys. Many of the bird species that inhabit this area migrate between Mexico, the Central Hardwoods, and Canada. To protect native bird species throughout their ranges, the joint venture works on conservation projects with partners in Mexico and Canada in areas these birds use for breeding or overwintering. The joint venture office staff coordinates, assists, and works with partners and others concerned with the conservation of bird populations and habitats in the Central Hardwoods Region.

States: Alabama,* Arkansas,* Illinois, Kentucky,* Missouri, Oklahoma,* Tennessee*

National Forests: Mark Twain, MO; Shawnee, IL

Prairie Pothole Joint Venture



The mission of the Prairie Pothole Joint Venture is to implement conservation programs that sustain populations of waterfowl, shorebirds, other waterbirds, and prairie landbirds at objective levels, through targeted wetland and grassland protection, restoration, and enhancement programs. These activities will be based on science and implemented in collaboration with multiple stakeholders. The vision of the Prairie Pothole Joint Venture is to have abundant populations of wetland and grassland birds that can be sustained in perpetuity for the benefit of all people who enjoy these species.

The following principles guide actions and support the mission of the joint venture:

- Diverse partnerships are the primary vehicle for accomplishing joint venture objectives.
- Long-term protection, restoration, and management of wetland and grassland habitats require that partners collaborate with a variety of conservation and community efforts in developing conservation, economic, and social policies and programs that sustain ecological health.
- Planning is biologically based and refined through research and evaluation.

States: Iowa, Minnesota, Montana,* North Dakota,* South Dakota*

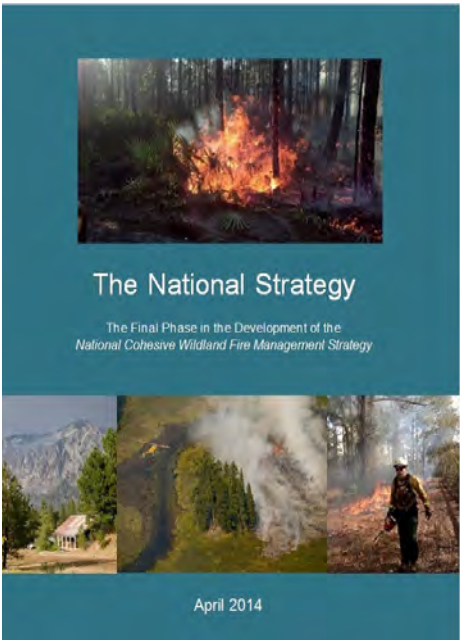
Upper Mississippi River and Great Lakes Region Joint Venture

The mission of the Upper Mississippi River and Great Lakes Region Joint Venture is to deliver the full spectrum of bird conservation through regionally based, biologically driven, landscape-oriented partnerships. The joint venture strives for sustainable populations of all birds through regionally coordinated conservation actions based on the best (or State-of-the-art) scientific information and techniques available. Explicit bird population goals, decision tools, and an implementation plan are used to guide resources, for efficient conservation delivery, research, and evaluation. Since the completion of the 2007 Implementation Plan, partners within the Joint Venture have protected, restored, and enhanced more than 820,000 acres of habitat. Moreover, scientific endeavors required to answer plan assumptions have been pursued and will feed into future planning documents and tools.

States: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas,* Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska,* Ohio, Wisconsin

National Forests: Chequamegon-Nicolet, WI; Huron-Manistee, MI

National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy


The National Strategy
The Final Phase in the Development of the
National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy
April 2014

The National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy is a collaborative process with active involvement of all levels of government and nongovernmental organizations, as well as the public, to seek national, all-lands solutions to wildland fire management issues. The Wildland Fire Leadership Council, established in 2002 by the Secretaries of Agriculture and the Interior to support the implementation and coordination of Federal Fire Management Policy, adopted a vision for this century:

> To safely and effectively extinguish fire when needed; use fire where allowable; manage our natural resources; and as a nation, to live with wildland fire.
>
> —*National Science and Analysis Team (2014, p. iii)*

The Wildland Fire Executive Council was appointed by the Wildland Fire Leadership Council to provide oversight of the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy implementation, which is focused on making meaningful progress towards these three goals:

- Resilient landscapes
- Fire-adapted communities
- Safe and effective wildfire response

Lead U.S. Agencies: Wildland Fire Leadership Council (Departments of Agriculture and the Interior)

States: Nationwide

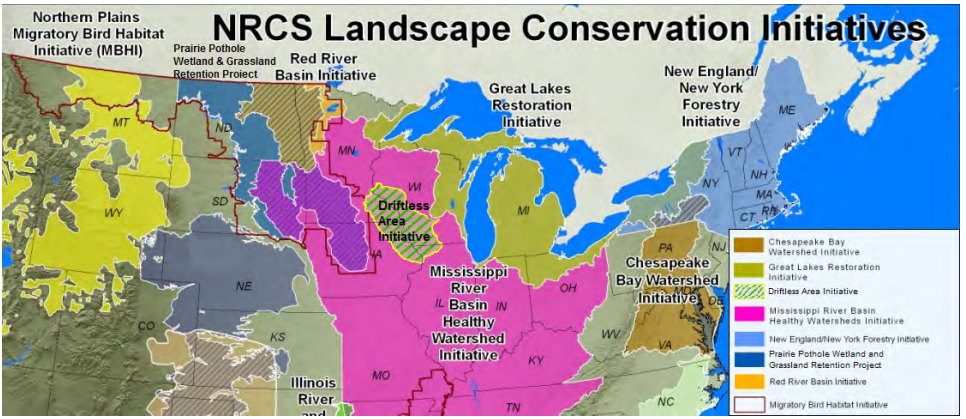
U.S. Forest Service Contacts:

- Community Fire Planner (Northeastern Area) – 610–557–4146
- Fuels Specialist (Eastern Region) – 414–297–1812

Reference

National Science and Analysis Team. 2014. The National Strategy: the final phase in the development of the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy. Washington: U.S. Department of Interior and Agriculture. 101 p. http://www.forestsandrangelands.gov/strategy/documents/strategy/CSPhaseIIINationalStrategyApr2014.pdf (1 May 2015)

Natural Resources Conservation Service Initiatives



The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) uses landscape conservation initiatives to accelerate the results that can be achieved through voluntary conservation programs. All NRCS programs are designed to support farmers, ranchers, and foresters in improving the environment while maintaining or improving the agricultural sector. Most program delivery is driven by grassroots input and local needs. Landscape conservation initiatives enhance the locally driven process to better address nationally and regionally important conservation goals. Through landscape conservation initiatives, NRCS and its partners coordinate delivery of assistance where it can have the most impact across these large areas.

Since the NRCS landscape conservation initiatives were established by the 2008 Farm Bill (Public Law 110-246. Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008. Act of June 18, 2008. 7 U.S.C. 8701), the agency has used successes and lessons learned to enhance the delivery of the initiatives. With tools like the Regional Conservation Partnership Program, the 2014 Farm Bill (Public Law 113-79. Agricultural Act of 2014. Act of Feb. 7, 2014. 7 U.S.C. 8701) further emphasizes the focus on building effective partnerships and obtaining meaningful results for key natural resource concerns. With the support of new and revised Farm Bill programs, NRCS will continue to work with partners to improve outcomes through landscape conservation initiatives.

Through these initiatives, NRCS seeks to accomplish the following:

- **Conservation beyond boundaries**—Landscape-scale natural resource concerns, such as species conservation and water quality, are most effectively addressed beyond geopolitical boundaries. NRCS recognizes that natural resource concerns transcend farm, county, and State boundaries.

- **Science-based approach**—Findings from the multi-agency Conservation Effects Assessment Project indicate the most effective way to increase protection of natural resources is to target conservation to the most vulnerable or valuable areas, and for agricultural producers to implement conservation practices as a system rather than by a practice-by-practice approach (Maresch 2008). Within individual initiatives, the best available university and government science resources are used to define targeting approaches.
- **Building on existing locally led efforts and partnerships**—NRCS seeks to maximize the success of initiatives by leveraging partner interest and resources through programs and other tools.
- **Regulatory certainty for agricultural producers**—Where applicable, NRCS is working with regulators so agricultural producers can have predictability and certainty that the voluntary conservation systems or practices they implement are consistent with current and potential regulation, as well as sustained agricultural production.

NRCS provides partners with technical and financial assistance through the following:

- Agricultural Conservation Easement Program
- Conservation Innovation Grants
- Conservation Stewardship Program
- Emergency Watershed Protection Program
- Environmental Quality Incentives Program
- Healthy Forests Reserve Program
- Regional Conservation Partnership Program

Lead U.S. Agency: Natural Resources Conservation Service

Other U.S. Agencies: Environmental Protection Agency, Forest Service

States: Nationwide, including the following active regional initiatives:

- Chesapeake Bay Watershed Initiative
- Driftless Area Landscape Conservation Initiative
- Great Lakes Restoration Initiative
- Mississippi River Basin Healthy Watersheds Initiative
- National Water Quality Initiative
- Red River Basin Initiative
- Working Lands for Wildlife

Legacy Initiatives

Although the following initiatives are no longer funded by NRCS at the national level, States will continue to offer general program funds, and may offer targeted funds, to address resource issues identified under these Legacy initiatives.

- Migratory Bird Habitat Initiative and Northern Plains Migratory Bird Habitat Initiative
- New England – New York Forestry Initiative

Special Project

The Prairie Pothole Wetland and Grassland Retention Project offers financial and technical assistance opportunities that can reduce the conversion rate of grasslands and wetlands.

Reference

Maresch, Wayne; Walbridge, Mark R.; Kugler, Daniel. 2008. Enhancing conservation on agricultural landscapes: a new direction for the Conservation Effects Assessment Project. Journal of Soil and Water Conservation 63(6): 198A–203A. http://www.jswconline.org/content/63/6/198A.full.pdf+html (19 May 2015).

Chesapeake Bay Watershed Initiative

Through the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Initiative, farmers, ranchers, and forestland owners voluntarily install conservation practices on hundreds of thousands of acres annually, to help support rural economies, protect wildlife habitat, and improve water quality in the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

For over 75 years, the U.S. Department of Agriculture including the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has partnered with agricultural producers, forest landowners, urban and suburban residents, and other conservation partners, in order to restore wetlands and enhance aquatic and other wildlife habitat on working agricultural land and private nonindustrial forest land in the Bay watershed.

The Chesapeake Bay Watershed Initiative is a targeted effort to reduce nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment loads coming from private lands. Through the Bay Initiative and other Farm Bill programs, NRCS and its partners help private landowners and managers to implement conservation practices that protect the watershed's soil and water resources while maintaining productive working lands. Farmers and forest landowners are planting stream buffers, restoring wetlands, properly managing manure, and implementing other conservation practices as part of the initiative.

States: Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia,* West Virginia

National Forest: Monongahela, WV

U.S. Forest Service Contact: Chesapeake Watershed Forestry Coordinator (Northeastern Area) – 410–267–5706

Driftless Area Landscape Conservation Initiative

Through the Driftless Area Conservation Landscape Initiative, the Natural Resources Conservation Service and its partners help producers and landowners implement voluntary conservation practices that improve, protect and restore habitat for unique and diverse fish and wildlife species found in the region's working lands, forests, streams and prairies.

The initiative directly targets soil erosion and wildlife habitat in the four-state Driftless area. This area is a unique, rugged region that was not covered by the last glacier and so contains no glacial deposits, also called drift. The diverse numbers of threatened and unique species offer opportunities to restore critical and rare habitat, increase grassland acreage and improve water quality. This initiative will address the unique needs of this distinctive, historic and vulnerable landscape. Using a landscape approach to habitat improvement, the initiative will address the following four natural resource objectives.

1. Manage working lands for increased perennial cover
2. Manage woodlands for increased diversity
3. Restore working lands to prairie and manage existing grasslands and oak savanna habitats for improved bird and pollinator habitat
4. Restore cold water trout streams and adjacent riparian areas

States: Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin

U.S. Forest Service Contact: St. Paul Field Office Forester (Northeastern Area) – 651–649–5182

Great Lakes Restoration Initiative

The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative supports voluntary action to protect and restore priority watersheds in the region. The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is working with its conservation partners in the eight-State area to combat invasive species, protect watersheds and shorelines from nonpoint source pollution, and restore wetlands and other habitat areas.

As part of an interagency funding agreement initiated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the initiative encompasses a broad partnership of Federal, State, local and nongovernmental organizations taking action in the Great Lakes Basin.

Through financial and technical assistance, NRCS assists private landowners with conservation planning and a variety of conservation practices, such as cover crops, conservation crop rotations, filter strips, prescribed grazing, and wetlands restoration.

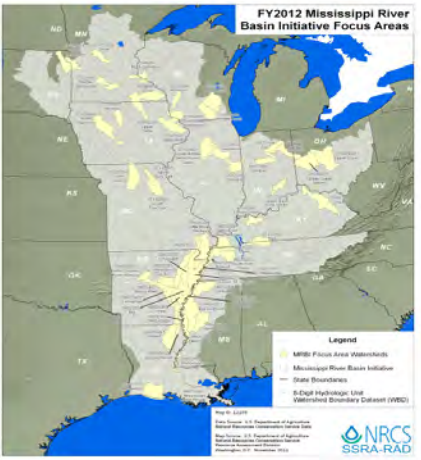
States and Provinces: Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, and Ontario*

National Forests and National Forest System Land: Chequamegon-Nicolet, WI; Finger Lakes, NY; Hiawatha, MI; Huron-Manistee, MI; Midewin Tallgrass Prairie, IL; Ottawa, MI; Superior, MN

U.S. Forest Service Contacts:

- Urban and Community Forestry Program Lead (Northeastern Area) – 610–557–4133
- St. Paul Field Representative (Northeastern Area) – 651–649–5276
- Morgantown Field Representative (Northeastern Area) – 304–285–1540
- Durham Field Representative (Northeastern Area) – 603–868–7694
- Assistant Director (Northern Research Station) – 651–649–5216
- Director for Planning, Administrative Review, Litigation, and LSC (Eastern Region) – 414–297–1905

Mississippi River Basin Healthy Watersheds Initiative



Through the Mississippi River Basin Healthy Watersheds Initiative, the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and its partners work with producers and landowners to implement voluntary conservation practices that improve water quality, restore wetlands, enhance wildlife habitat, and sustain agricultural profitability in the Mississippi River Basin.

Known as "America's River," the Mississippi River is North America's largest river, flowing over 2,300 miles through America's heartland to the Gulf of Mexico. It is the centerpiece of the second largest watershed in the world. The watershed not only provides drinking water, food, industry, and recreation for millions of people, it also hosts a globally significant migratory flyway and is home to over 325 bird species. NRCS has identified the Mississippi River Basin as a top priority, due to water quality concerns, primarily related to the effects of nutrient loading on the health of local water bodies and, eventually, the Gulf of Mexico. This 13-State initiative builds on the cooperative work of NRCS and its conservation partners in the basin, and offers agricultural producers in priority watersheds the opportunity to receive voluntary technical and financial assistance.

Through the initiative, NRCS and its partners use a "conservation systems approach" to help producers avoid, control, and trap nutrients and sediment in order to address water quality concerns. This is accomplished by optimizing nitrogen and phosphorus use in agricultural fields, minimizing nutrient and water runoff, and improving soil health. The initiative uses key conservation practices, such as nutrient management, conservation crop rotation, cover crops, and residue and tillage management, to address critical water quality concerns. These practices will reduce the impact of nutrient loading on the health of local water bodies and, eventually, the Gulf of Mexico. Producers also benefit a variety of wildlife species in the Mississippi River Basin by restoring and managing wetlands and upland habitats.

States: Arkansas,* Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky,* Louisiana,* Minnesota, Mississippi,* Missouri, Ohio, South Dakota,* Tennessee,* Wisconsin

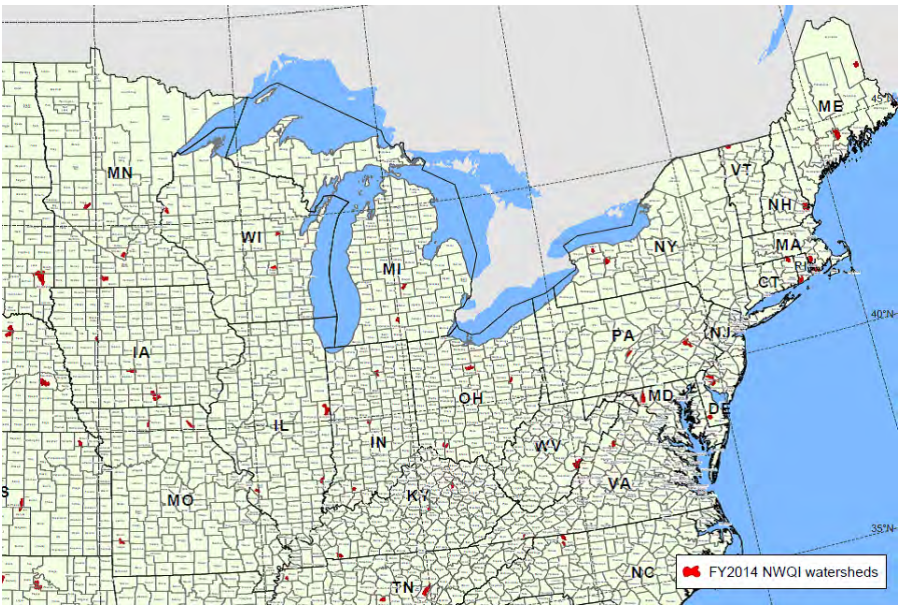
U.S. Forest Service Contacts:

- St. Paul Field Representative (Northeastern Area) – 651–649–5276
- St. Paul Field Office Forester (Northeastern Area) – 651–649–5182

National Water Quality Initiative

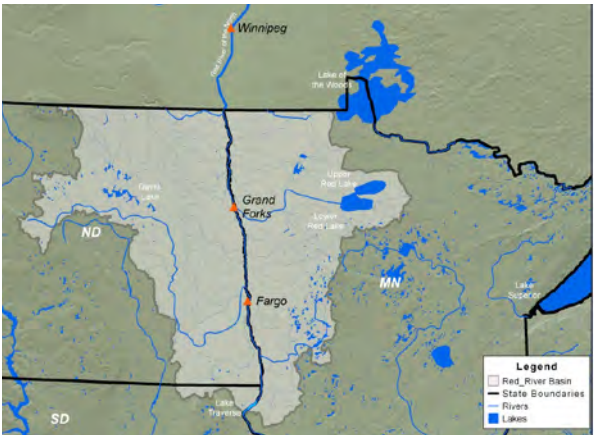
The National Water Quality Initiative works in priority watersheds to help farmers, ranchers, and forest landowners improve water quality and aquatic habitats in impaired streams. The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) will help producers implement conservation and management practices, through a systematic approach to control and trap nutrient and manure runoff. Qualified producers receive assistance for installing conservation practices, such as cover crops, filter strips, and terraces. NRCS conservation professionals provide technical assistance and planning tools to determine which conservation actions on the land will most improve water quality. Nutrient management systems, erosion control, conservation tillage, pest management, and buffer systems are just some of the practices being offered as part of the National Water Quality Initiative.

To help with installation and to share the costs of these conservation practices, financial assistance is available through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program. NRCS identified priority watersheds through the help of local partnerships and State water quality agencies. Partners sometimes offer financial assistance in addition to NRCS programs. NRCS will continue to coordinate with local and State agencies, conservation districts, nongovernmental organizations, and others to implement this initiative. This strategic approach will leverage funds and provide streamlined assistance to help individual agricultural producers take needed actions to reduce the flow of sediment, nutrients, and other runoff into impaired waterways.



States: Nationwide; eligible watersheds are listed by year and State on the NRCS National Water Quality Initiative Web page.

Red River Basin Initiative



The Red River Basin has lost significant amounts of native prairie and wetlands and continues to experience severe flooding. That flooding has also resulted in loss of wildlife habitat and increased water quality concerns. Severe flooding has plagued the basin for more than 20 years. Rapid snowmelt has resulted in significant erosion, impairing water quality. Rapidly moving water often flows over the river's banks, destroying wildlife habitat and adversely impacting existing conservation practices designed to control the water's flow and improve water quality.

As a result, the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) created the Red River Basin Initiative to resolve these natural resource issues. The initiative covers 25 million acres in three states located in the midcontinent Prairie Pothole Region, a critical migratory wildlife pathway.

NRCS provides financial and technical assistance to help landowners apply and implement conservation practices to reduce flooding impacts, improve water quality and enhance wildlife habitat in the basin. NRCS and its partners—local, State, and Federal agencies and organizations—will develop strategies to focus conservation efforts in locally identified and selected priority landscapes.

States: Minnesota, North Dakota,* South Dakota*

Sentinel Landscapes Partnership

Sentinel landscapes are places where working or natural lands are important to the Nation's defense mission. Preserving these key landscapes strengthens the economies of farms, ranches, and forests; conserves wildlife habitat and natural resources; and protects military test and training missions conducted on the installations that anchor the landscapes.

The U.S. Departments of Agriculture, Defense, and the Interior launched the Sentinel Landscapes Partnership in 2013. The initiative enables these agencies to achieve established priorities at shared cost, on a wider scale, and with broader stakeholder buy-in. It uses USDA's conservation programs to protect the land around these military bases from development.

The innovative initiative protects defense missions through efficient government and private sector collaboration that meets the objectives of each of the participants. Federal agencies are better able to deliver assistance programs to private landowners who adopt and sustain land uses that are compatible with the military mission and benefit conservation and working lands. Working lands provide food and fiber to our nation, and key natural resources help to ensure water quality and provide climate change resilience.

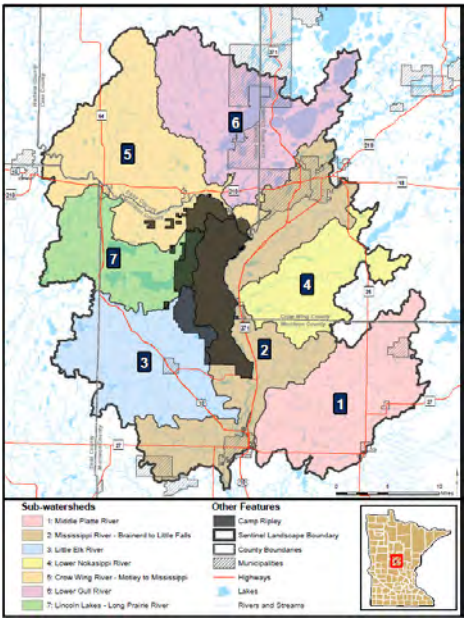
States: Nationwide; as of 2016, Arizona,* Delaware, Florida,* Maryland, Minnesota, North Carolina,* Washington* (additional sites may be designated in the future)

Lead U.S. Agencies:

- Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service and Forest Service
- Department of Defense, Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration Program, Office of Economic Adjustment, and Natural Resources Program
- Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Camp Ripley Sentinel Landscape

Located along the northern stretch of the Mississippi River, Camp Ripley is a National Guard training center. For decades, the agricultural and open space lands surrounding Camp Ripley have enabled the installation to train units from seven States, with limited restrictions. The rural character of the area that provided for this is now attracting potential residential development that could affect Camp Ripley's mission; convert historic farms, ranches, and forested lands to other uses; and adversely affect an ecologically rich environment and watershed.



Mississippi River headwaters flow through the Camp Ripley Sentinel Landscape (Source: Sentinel Landscapes Partnership, www.sentinellandscapes.org)

Recognizing the need to protect this landscape, Minnesota designated the Camp Ripley Sentinel Landscape by law in 2015. Under the law, a coordinating committee was convened to identify the boundaries of the Camp Ripley Sentinel Landscape, and develop tools and programs to provide technical and financial assistance to interested landowners within the landscape. The Minnesota Forest Resource Council is working with landowners to implement forest stewardship plans within the Sentinel Landscape, while Partners for Fish and Wildlife will work with private landowners to restore and enhance fish and wildlife habitat, wetlands, and pollinator habitat.

Federal, State, and local partners have committed more than $5 million to protect or enhance nearly 35,000 acres of working agricultural and natural lands. The landscape will also help to protect imperiled species such as the northern long-eared bat. Protecting this landscape will safeguard Camp Ripley's training mission, the integrity of the region's natural resources, and increase access to hunting, fishing, and recreation for local residents.

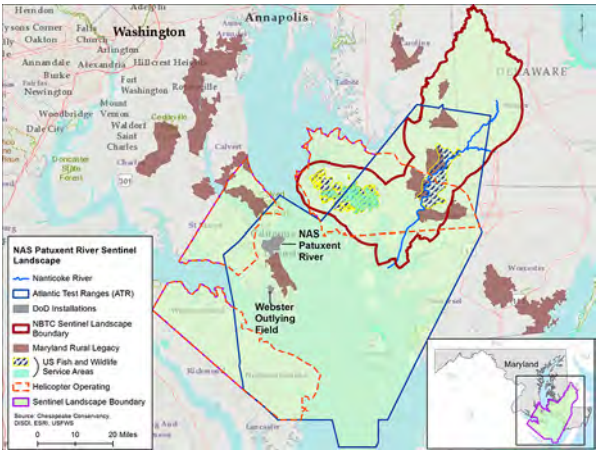
Lead U.S. Agencies: Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service and Forest Service; Department of Defense, Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration Program, and Army Compatible Use Buffer Program; Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service

State: Minnesota

U.S. Forest Service Contact: Midwest Field Representative (Northeastern Area) – 651–649–5276

Naval Air Station Patuxent River Sentinel Landscape

The Naval Air Station Patuxent River Sentinel Landscape encompasses 2,360 square miles that are home to a variety of special status plants and animals, rich cultural and historic resources, and a recreational playground for millions. This U.S. Navy test range spans parts of the Chesapeake Bay and three States.



A rural farming landscape supports the Atlantic Test Ranges associated with the Naval Air Station Patuxent River (Source: Chesapeake Conservancy, Defense Installation Spatial Data Infrastructure, Esri, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Sentinel Landscapes Partnership www.sentinellandscapes.org)

Within this Sentinel Landscape, Federal agencies, along with the Chesapeake Conservancy and many State and conservation partners, are working to conserve a wildlife corridor of at least 1,385 acres of forests, wetlands, and farmland along the Nanticoke River and Chesapeake Bay. The pristine and ecologically significant Nanticoke watershed harbors more than 260 rare plants and animals. Maintaining the undeveloped corridor under the test range also reduces noise and safety concerns, and prevents costly testing delays.

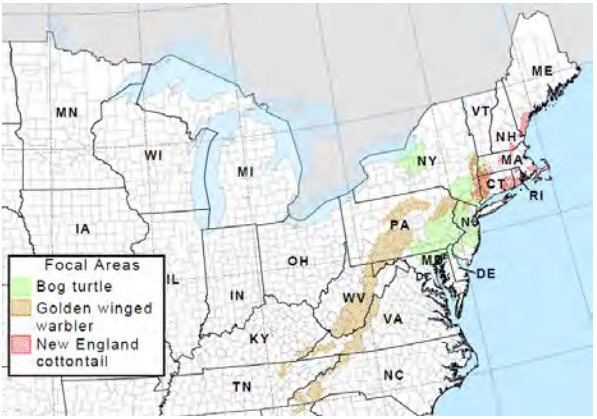
Lead U.S. Agencies: Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service; Department of Defense, Navy; Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service

Other Lead Organization: Chesapeake Conservancy

States: Delaware, Maryland

U.S. Forest Service Contact: Chesapeake Watershed Forestry Coordinator (Northeastern Area) — 410–267–5706

Working Lands for Wildlife



The nation's rural landowners, its farmers, ranchers, and forest owners, provide not only food and fiber for the world, but also a host of environmental benefits, including habitat for wildlife. Nearly two thirds of all species federally listed as threatened or endangered exist on private lands. Conservation efforts on these lands generate outdoor recreation and economic activity that result in sustained growth for local communities and landowners.

Working Lands for Wildlife is a new partnership between the Natural Resources Conservation Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) to use agency technical expertise combined with $33 million in financial assistance from the Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program to combat the decline of seven specific wildlife species whose decline can be reversed and will benefit other species with similar habitat needs.

Through Working Lands for Wildlife landowners can voluntarily participate in an incentive-based effort to:

- Restore populations of declining wildlife species.
- Provide farmers, ranchers, and forest managers with regulatory certainty that conservation investments they make today help sustain their operations over the long term.
- Strengthen and sustain rural economies by restoring and protecting the productive capacity of working lands.

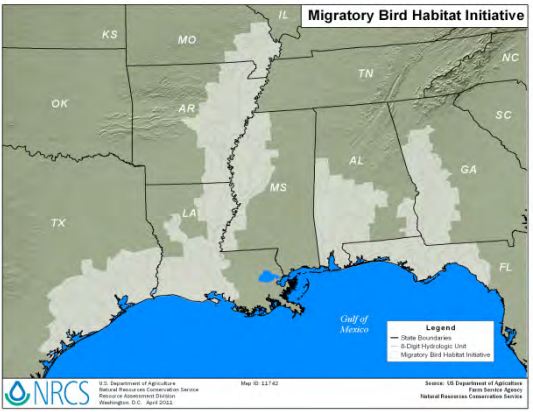
States: Nationwide; species-specific focal areas include the following States:

- **Bog turtle**—Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania
- **Golden winged warbler**—Georgia,* Kentucky,* New Jersey, New York, North Carolina,* Pennsylvania, Tennessee,* Virginia,* West Virginia
- **New England cottontail**—Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island

Legacy Initiatives

Although the following initiatives are no longer funded at the national Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) level, States will continue to offer general program funds, and may offer targeted funds, to address resource issues identified under these legacy initiatives.

Migratory Bird Habitat Initiative



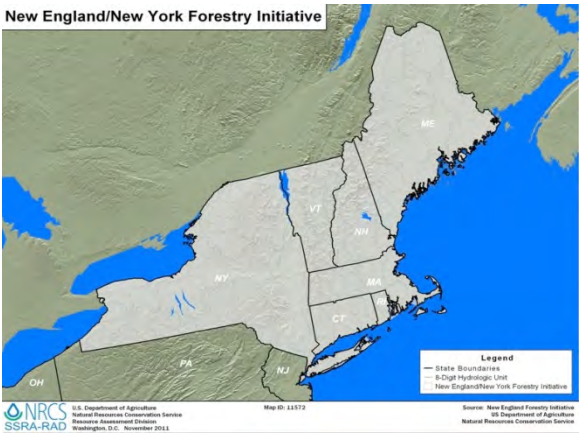
The Migratory Bird Habitat Initiative took flight during the Deepwater Horizon, or BP, oil spill. This partnership effort is one of the most popular initiatives in NRCS history. Conservation-minded landowners who love wildlife offered more than 1 million acres for this initiative. More than 470,000 acres are now enrolled, which is three times more than anticipated. Funding for the initiative actually had to be increased to $40 million to meet demand.

The Migratory Bird Habitat Initiative and the Northern Plains Migratory Bird Habitat Initiative focus on projects that will benefit wildlife, landowners, and the environment for years to come. Projects provide food and critical habitat for bird populations, much-needed water during drought, support for local economies by attracting hunters and bird watchers, and new opportunities to improve wildlife management.

States:

- Gulf States: Alabama,* Arkansas,* Florida,* Georgia,* Louisiana,* Mississippi,* Missouri, Texas*
- Northern Plains States: Iowa, Minnesota, Montana,* North Dakota,* South Dakota*

New England-New York Forestry Initiative



Through the New England-New York Forestry Initiative, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), the U.S. Forest Service, State forestry agencies, nongovernmental organizations, and forest landowners and managers implement voluntary conservation practices that keep forests as forests, so they provide clean drinking water, support rural economies, and protect wildlife habitat.

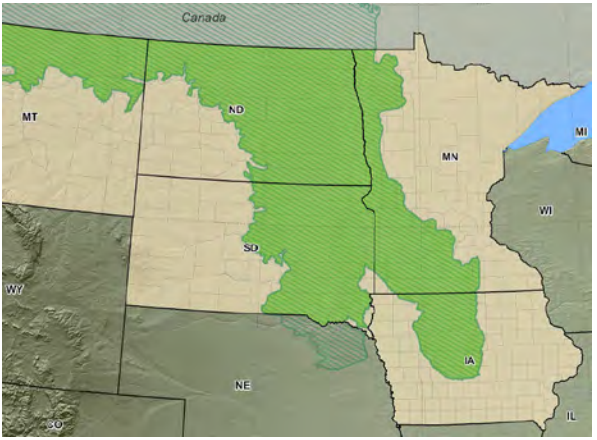
The forests are diverse, ranging from the extensive broadleaf deciduous and mixed forests to montane and lowland spruce-fir and low elevation forests of oak, pine, and hickory. They stretch from the Atlantic coast to the highest mountain peaks in the area. The forests provide opportunities for recreation, tourism, and logging. They also provide critical habitat for a variety of wildlife including moose, black bear, lynx, and migratory bird species that migrate incredible distances to Central and South America during the winter.

NRCS is working with forest landowners to plan and install conservation practices that will improve forest health, reduce erosion, and improve water quality and fish and wildlife habitat.

States: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont

U.S. Forest Service Contact: Durham Field Representative (Northeastern Area) – 603–868–7694

Special Project—Prairie Pothole Wetland and Grassland Retention Project



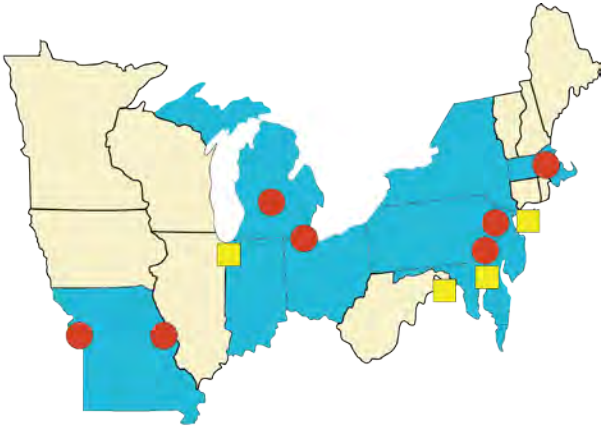
The unique Prairie Pothole Region landscape, known for its diverse wetlands and large areas of native prairie, provides critical habitat for many of the nation's migratory birds, including grassland birds. Maintaining wetlands and grasslands in the region provides diverse benefits, including water quality protection, potential flood reduction, carbon sequestration, and enhanced wetland and wildlife habitat.

Recent expansion of corn and soybean production in the region has created new pressures on grasslands and wetlands. Several factors are driving the expansion and intensity of crop production, including commodity prices, warming weather patterns, and improved crop varieties. These drivers create short-term incentives to convert existing grasslands—both native prairie and expiring Conservation Reserve Program acreage—as well as some wetlands to crop production. Significant conversion of these working agricultural lands can have adverse impacts on water quality and quantity, and on wildlife habitat in the region.

To stem the tide of conversion, NRCS is offering farmers and ranchers various financial and technical options to consider before they convert grasslands or wetlands to cropland. These options will provide farmers and ranchers with economically viable alternatives to protect their grasslands and wetlands. Protecting the soil, water, and wildlife habitat resources of the region is compatible with making a living off the land.

States: Iowa, Minnesota, Montana,* Nebraska,* North Dakota,* South Dakota*

Urban Waters Federal Partnership



The Urban Waters partnership reconnects urban communities—particularly those that are overburdened or economically distressed—with their waterways. It does this by improving coordination among Federal agencies and collaborating with community-led revitalization efforts to improve the Nation's water systems and promote their economic, environmental, and social benefits.

Specifically, the Urban Waters Federal Partnership strives to do the following:

- Promote more efficient and effective use of Federal resources through better coordination and targeting of Federal investments
- Recognize and build on local efforts and leadership, by engaging and serving community partners
- Work with local officials and effective community-based organizations to leverage area resources and stimulate local economies to create local jobs
- Learn from early and visible victories to fuel long-term action
- Align with President Obama's America's Great Outdoors (AGO) initiative, which calls on agencies to support innovative community efforts to provide safe, healthy, and accessible outdoor spaces.

Lead U.S. Agency: Environmental Protection Agency

Other U.S. Agencies: Forest Service, Army Corps of Engineers, Department of Commerce – Economic Development Administration and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Corporation for National and Community Service, Department of Health and Human Services – Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, Department of Housing and Urban Development, Department of the Interior, Department of Transportation, Department of Energy, Department of Education

States: Nationwide, urban areas only

2011 Announced Partnerships (yellow squares on map):

- Anacostia River Watershed – District of Columbia and Maryland
  Part of AGO Landscape of National Significance and River and Water Trail
- Bronx and Harlem River Watersheds – New York, NY
  Part of AGO River and Water Trail and Great Urban Park and Wildlife Area
- Northwest Indiana – Grand Calumet, Little Calumet, and Deep Rivers; Salt Creek and Trail Creek
  Part of AGO Great Urban Park and Wildlife Area
- Patapsco River Watershed – Baltimore, MD
  Part of AGO Landscape of National Significance

2013 Announced Partnerships (red circles on map):

- Delaware River Watershed (U.S. Forest Service-led) – metropolitan Philadelphia (Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware)
  Part of AGO Landscape of National Significance and River and Water Trail
- Grand River Watershed – Grand Rapids, MI
  Part of AGO Landscape of National Significance and River and Water Trail
- Meramec and Big River Watersheds – St. Louis, MO
  Part of AGO River and Water Trail and Great Urban Park and Wildlife Area
- Middle Blue River Watershed – Kansas City, MO
- Mystic River Watershed – metropolitan Boston, MA
- Passaic River Watershed – Newark, NJ
- Western Lake Erie Basin – Toledo, OH
  Part of AGO Landscapes of National and Regional Significance

U.S. Forest Service Contacts:

- Director (Northern Research Station) – 610–557–4017
- St. Paul Field Representative (Northeastern Area) – 651–649–5276
  - ◊ Northwest Indiana – Project Leader and Research Social Scientist (Northern Research Station) – 847–866–9311 x11
  - ◊ Bronx and Harlem – Durham Field Office (Northeastern Area) – 603–868–7688
  - ◊ Baltimore and Anacostia – Morgantown Field Representative (Northeastern Area) – 304–285–1540

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Nationwide Federal Initiatives

These initiatives are active across the country and may not have specific information available on participating States or National Forests.

Aquatic Organism Passage
Cooperative Weed Management Areas
Forests on the Edge and Open Space Conservation
Forests to Faucets
Land and Water Conservation Fund
National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy

Regional Federal Initiatives by State

Connecticut

America's Great Outdoors
- Connecticut River Watershed National Blueway – Landscape of National Significance
- New England Forests and Waters – Landscape of National Significance
- Naugatuck River Greenway – River and Water Trail

Atlantic Coast Migratory Bird Habitat Joint Venture
Atlantic Coastal Fish Habitat Partnership
Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture Fish Habitat Partnership
Forests, Water, and People
National Water Quality Initiative
New England Climate Change Response Framework
New England – New York Forestry Initiative
North Atlantic Landscape Conservation Cooperative
Northeast Aquatic Nuisance Species Panel
Northern Forest Futures Project
Working Lands for Wildlife (*bog turtle and New England cottontail*)

Delaware

America's Great Outdoors
- Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail – Landscape of National Significance
- Delaware National Bayshore – Landscape of National Significance
- Nanticoke River – Captain John Smith Chesapeake Connecting Trail – River and Water Trail

Atlantic Coastal Fish Habitat Partnership
Atlantic Coast Migratory Bird Habitat Joint Venture
Chesapeake Bay Program
Chesapeake Bay Watershed Initiative
Forests, Water, and People
Mid-Atlantic Climate Change Response Framework
Mid-Atlantic Panel on Aquatic Invasive Species
National Water Quality Initiative
Naval Air Station Patuxent River Sentinel Landscape
North Atlantic Landscape Conservation Cooperative
Northern Forest Futures Project
Urban Waters Federal Partnership
- Delaware River Watershed (Metropolitan Philadelphia)

Working Lands for Wildlife *(bog turtle)*

District of Columbia

America's Great Outdoors
- Anacostia River Restoration – River and Water Trail
- Anacostia Riverwalk Trail – Great Urban Park and Wildlife Area
- Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail – Landscape of National Significance

Appalachian Landscape Conservation Cooperative
Atlantic Coastal Fish Habitat Partnership
Atlantic Coast Migratory Bird Habitat Joint Venture
Chesapeake Bay Program
Chesapeake Bay Watershed Initiative
Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture Fish Habitat Partnership
Forests, Water, and People
Mid-Atlantic Panel on Aquatic Invasive Species
North Atlantic Landscape Conservation Cooperative
Northern Forest Futures Project
Urban Waters Federal Partnership
- Anacostia River Watershed

Illinois

America's Great Outdoors
- Calumet Millennium Reserve – Great Urban Park and Wildlife Area
- Great Lakes – Landscape of National Significance
- Hackmatack National Wildlife Refuge – Landscape of Regional Significance
- Lake Michigan Water Trail – River and Water Trail
- Memorial Arch and Mississippi River in St. Louis (Jefferson National Expansion Memorial Revitalization) – Great Urban Park and Wildlife Area
- Mississippi River Bluffs – Landscape of National Significance
- Pecatonica River Water Trail – River and Water Trail

Appalachian Landscape Conservation Cooperative
Central Hardwoods Climate Change Response Framework
Central Hardwoods Migratory Bird Habitat Joint Venture
Chiefs' Joint Landscape Restoration Partnership
- Kinkaid Lake Watershed Restoration in Southern Illinois

Community Engagement through Recreation and Tourism – Shawnee National Forest communities
Driftless Area Landscape Conservation Initiative
Driftless Area Restoration Effort Fish Habitat Partnership
Eastern Tallgrass Prairie and Big Rivers Landscape Conservation Cooperative
Fishers and Farmers Fish Habitat Partnership for the Upper Mississippi River Basin
Forests, Water, and People
Great Lakes Basin Fish Habitat Partnership
Great Lakes Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species
Great Lakes Restoration Initiative
Gulf Coastal Plains and Ozarks Landscape Conservation Cooperative
Lake Michigan Lakewide Action and Management Plan
Middle Mississippi River Partnership
Midwest Glacial Lakes Fish Habitat Partnership
Midwest Natural Resources Group
Mississippi River Basin Healthy Watersheds Initiative
Mississippi River Basin Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species
National Water Quality Initiative
Northern Forest Futures Project
Ohio River Basin Fish Habitat Partnership
Upper Midwest and Great Lakes Landscape Conservation Cooperative
Upper Mississippi River and Great Lakes Region Migratory Bird Habitat Joint Venture
Upper Mississippi River Forest Partnership
Urban Forestry Climate Change Response Framework (Metropolitan Chicago)

Indiana

America's Great Outdoors
- Great Lakes – Landscape of National Significance
- Indiana Dunes – Great Urban Park and Wildlife Area
- Lake Michigan Water Trail – River and Water Trail
- Wabash River Healthy Rivers Initiative – River and Water Trail

Appalachian Landscape Conservation Cooperative
Central Hardwoods Climate Change Response Framework
Eastern Tallgrass Prairie and Big Rivers Landscape Conservation Cooperative
Fishers and Farmers Fish Habitat Partnership for the Upper Mississippi River Basin
Forests, Water, and People
Great Lakes Basin Fish Habitat Partnership
Great Lakes Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species
Great Lakes Restoration Initiative
Lake Michigan Lakewide Action and Management Plan
Midwest Glacial Lakes Fish Habitat Partnership
Midwest Natural Resources Group
Mississippi River Basin Healthy Watersheds Initiative
Mississippi River Basin Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species
National Water Quality Initiative
Northern Forest Futures Project
Ohio River Basin Fish Habitat Partnership
Upper Midwest and Great Lakes Landscape Conservation Cooperative
Upper Mississippi River and Great Lakes Region Migratory Bird Habitat Joint Venture
Upper Mississippi River Forest Partnership
Urban Forestry Climate Change Response Framework (Metropolitan Chicago)
Urban Waters Federal Partnership
- Grand Calumet, Little Calumet, and Deep Rivers; Salt Creek and Trail Creek (Northwest Indiana)

Iowa

America's Great Outdoors
- Big Sioux River Fish Passage and Recreation – River and Water Trail
- Loess Hills – Landscape of Regional Significance
- Mississippi River Bluffs – Landscape of National Significance
- Southern Prairie Potholes National Wildlife Refuge – Landscape of Regional Significance

Driftless Area Landscape Conservation Initiative
Driftless Area Restoration Effort Fish Habitat Partnership
Eastern Tallgrass Prairie and Big Rivers Landscape Conservation Cooperative
Fishers and Farmers Fish Habitat Partnership for the Upper Mississippi River Basin
Forests, Water, and People
Great Plains Fish Habitat Partnership
Midwest Glacial Lakes Fish Habitat Partnership
Midwest Natural Resources Group
Migratory Bird Habitat Initiative (Northern Plains States)
Mississippi River Basin Healthy Watersheds Initiative
Mississippi River Basin Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species
National Water Quality Initiative
Northern Forest Futures Project
Plains and Prairie Potholes Landscape Conservation Cooperative
Prairie Pothole Migratory Bird Habitat Joint Venture
Prairie Pothole Wetland and Grassland Retention Project
Upper Midwest and Great Lakes Landscape Conservation Cooperative
Upper Mississippi River and Great Lakes Region Migratory Bird Habitat Joint Venture
Upper Mississippi River Forest Partnership

Maine

America's Great Outdoors
- New England Forests and Waters – Landscape of National Significance
- Penobscot River Restoration Project – Landscape of National Significance

Atlantic Coastal Fish Habitat Partnership
Atlantic Coast Migratory Bird Habitat Joint Venture
Community Engagement through Recreation and Tourism – White Mountain National Forest Communities
Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture Fish Habitat Partnership
Forests, Water, and People
National Water Quality Initiative
New England Climate Change Response Framework
North Atlantic Landscape Conservation Cooperative
Northeast Aquatic Nuisance Species Panel
Northern Forest Futures Project
New England – New York Forestry Initiative
Working Lands for Wildlife *(New England cottontail)*

Maryland

America's Great Outdoors
- Anacostia River Restoration – River and Water Trail
- Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail – Landscape of National Significance
- Chester River Captain John Smith Connecting Trail – River and Water Trail
- Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad National Historic Park – Great Urban Park and Wildlife Area

Appalachian Forest Renewal Initiative
Appalachian Landscape Conservation Cooperative
Appalachian Mountains Migratory Bird Habitat Joint Venture
Appalachian Regional Reforestation Initiative
Atlantic Coastal Fish Habitat Partnership
Atlantic Coast Migratory Bird Habitat Joint Venture
Central Appalachians Climate Change Response Framework
Chesapeake Bay Program
Chesapeake Bay Watershed Initiative
Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture Fish Habitat Partnership
Forests, Water, and People
Mid-Atlantic Climate Change Response Framework
Mid-Atlantic Panel on Aquatic Invasive Species
National Water Quality Initiative
Naval Air Station Patuxent River Sentinel Landscape
North Atlantic Landscape Conservation Cooperative
Northern Forest Futures Project
Urban Waters Federal Partnership
- Anacostia River Watershed
- Patapsco River Watershed (Baltimore)

Working Lands for Wildlife *(bog turtle)*

Massachusetts

America's Great Outdoors
- Blackstone River Valley Greenway – River and Water Trail
- Connecticut River Watershed National Blueway – Landscape of National Significance

Atlantic Coastal Fish Habitat Partnership
Atlantic Coast Migratory Bird Habitat Joint Venture
Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture Fish Habitat Partnership
Forests, Water, and People
National Water Quality Initiative
New England Climate Change Response Framework
New England – New York Forestry Initiative
North Atlantic Landscape Conservation Cooperative
Northeast Aquatic Nuisance Species Panel
Northern Forest Futures Project
Urban Waters Federal Partnership
- Mystic River Watershed (Metropolitan Boston)

Working Lands for Wildlife *(bog turtle and New England cottontail)*

Michigan

America's Great Outdoors
- Detroit River Restoration – River and Water Trail
- Great Lakes – Landscape of National Significance
- Lake Michigan Water Trail – River and Water Trail
- Saginaw Bay – *pilot* Signature Watershed

Eastern Tallgrass Prairie and Big Rivers Landscape Conservation Cooperative
Forests, Water, and People
Great Lakes Basin Fish Habitat Partnership
Great Lakes Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species
Great Lakes Restoration Initiative
Lake Erie Lakewide Action and Management Plan
Lake Huron Binational Partnership
Lake Michigan Lakewide Action and Management Plan
Lake Superior Binational Program
Midwest Glacial Lakes Fish Habitat Partnership
Midwest Natural Resources Group
National Water Quality Initiative
Northern Forest Futures Project
Northwoods Climate Change Response Framework
Upper Midwest and Great Lakes Landscape Conservation Cooperative
Upper Mississippi River and Great Lakes Region Migratory Bird Habitat Joint Venture
Urban Forestry Climate Change Response Framework (Metropolitan Chicago)
Urban Waters Federal Partnership
- Grand River Watershed (Grand Rapids)

Minnesota

America's Great Outdoors
- Big Sioux River Fish Passage and Recreation – River and Water Trail
- Great Lakes – Landscape of National Significance
- Minnesota River Blueway (upper corridor) – River and Water Trail
- Mississippi National River and Recreation Area – River and Water Trail
- Mississippi River Bluffs – Landscape of National Significance

Camp Ripley Sentinel Landscape
Chiefs' Joint Landscape Restoration Partnership
- Minnesota Lake Superior North Shore Coastal Forest Restoration Project
- Upper Mississippi River Headwaters Restoration in North Central Minnesota

Community Engagement through Recreation and Tourism – Superior National Forest communities
Driftless Area Landscape Conservation Initiative
Driftless Area Restoration Effort Fish Habitat Partnership
Eastern Tallgrass Prairie and Big Rivers Landscape Conservation Cooperative
Fishers and Farmers Fish Habitat Partnership for the Upper Mississippi River Basin
Forests, Water, and People
Great Lakes Basin Fish Habitat Partnership
Great Lakes Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species
Great Lakes Restoration Initiative
Great Plains Fish Habitat Partnership
Lake Michigan Lakewide Action and Management Plan
Lake Superior Binational Program
Midwest Glacial Lakes Fish Habitat Partnership
Midwest Natural Resources Group
- Root River Stewardship Council *(ongoing collaborative project)*

Migratory Bird Habitat Initiative (Northern Plains States)
Mississippi River Basin Healthy Watersheds Initiative
Mississippi River Basin Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species
National Water Quality Initiative
Northern Forest Futures Project
Northwoods Climate Change Response Framework
Plains and Prairie Potholes Landscape Conservation Cooperative
Prairie Pothole Migratory Bird Habitat Joint Venture
Prairie Pothole Wetland and Grassland Retention Project
Red River Basin Initiative
Upper Midwest and Great Lakes Landscape Conservation Cooperative
Upper Mississippi River and Great Lakes Region Migratory Bird Habitat Joint Venture
Upper Mississippi River Forest Partnership

Missouri

America's Great Outdoors
- Ozark Trail – Landscape of Regional Significance
- Memorial Arch and Mississippi River in St. Louis (Jefferson National Expansion Memorial Revitalization) – Great Urban Park and Wildlife Area
- Missouri-Mississippi Rivers Confluence Conservation and Recreation – River and Water Trail
- White River Blueway – *pilot site*

Central Hardwoods Climate Change Response Framework
Central Hardwoods Migratory Bird Habitat Joint Venture
Chiefs' Joint Landscape Restoration Partnership
- Missouri Ozark Highlands Restoration Partnership

Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program
- Missouri Pine-Oak Landscape Restoration *(State and Federal forest lands only)*

Eastern Tallgrass Prairie and Big Rivers Landscape Conservation Cooperative
Fishers and Farmers Fish Habitat Partnership for the Upper Mississippi River Basin
Forests, Water, and People
Great Plains Fish Habitat Partnership
Gulf Coastal Plains and Ozarks Landscape Conservation Cooperative
Middle Mississippi River Partnership
Midwest Natural Resources Group
Migratory Bird Habitat Initiative (Gulf States)
Mississippi River Basin Healthy Watersheds Initiative
Mississippi River Basin Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species
National Water Quality Initiative
Northern Forest Futures Project
Southeast Aquatic Resources Fish Habitat Partnership
Upper Mississippi River and Great Lakes Region Migratory Bird Habitat Joint Venture
Upper Mississippi River Forest Partnership
Urban Waters Federal Partnership
- Meramec and Big River Watersheds (St. Louis)
- Middle Blue River Watershed (Kansas City)

New Hampshire

America's Great Outdoors
- Connecticut River Watershed National Blueway – Landscape of National Significance
- New England Forests and Waters – Landscape of National Significance

Atlantic Coastal Fish Habitat Partnership
Atlantic Coast Migratory Bird Habitat Joint Venture
Chiefs' Joint Landscape Restoration Partnership
- New Hampshire Drinking Water Improvement

Community Engagement through Recreation and Tourism
Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture Fish Habitat Partnership
Forests, Water, and People
National Water Quality Initiative
New England Climate Change Response Framework
New England – New York Forestry Initiative
North Atlantic Landscape Conservation Cooperative
Northeast Aquatic Nuisance Species Panel
Northern Forest Futures Project
Treasured Landscapes – Tropical Storm Irene Restoration
Working Lands for Wildlife *(New England cottontail)*

New Jersey

America's Great Outdoors
- Barnegat Bay Landscape Preservation and Recreation and Water Access – Landscape of Regional Significance
- Delaware River Restoration – River and Water Trail

Appalachian Landscape Conservation Cooperative
Appalachian Mountains Migratory Bird Habitat Joint Venture
Atlantic Coastal Fish Habitat Partnership
Atlantic Coast Migratory Bird Habitat Joint Venture
Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture Fish Habitat Partnership
Forests, Water, and People
Mid-Atlantic Climate Change Response Framework
Mid-Atlantic Panel on Aquatic Invasive Species
National Water Quality Initiative
North Atlantic Landscape Conservation Cooperative
Northern Forest Futures Project
Urban Waters Federal Partnership
- Delaware River Watershed (Metropolitan Philadelphia)
- Passaic River Watershed (Newark)

Working Lands for Wildlife *(bog turtle and golden winged warbler)*

New York

America's Great Outdoors
- Bronx River National Water Trail – River and Water Trail
- Finger Lakes Water Trail – River and Water Trail
- Great Lakes – Landscape of National Significance
- Harlem River and Roberto Clemente State Park – Great Urban Parks and Wildlife Areas
- Lake Champlain – *pilot* Signature Landscape
- New York City and Jamaica Bay Great Urban Park – Great Urban Park and Wildlife Area

Appalachian Landscape Conservation Cooperative
Appalachian Mountains Migratory Bird Habitat Joint Venture
Atlantic Coastal Fish Habitat Partnership
Atlantic Coast Migratory Bird Habitat Joint Venture
Chesapeake Bay Program
Chesapeake Bay Watershed Initiative
Chiefs' Joint Landscape Restoration Partnership
- Susquehanna Watershed Riparian Buffer Enhancements in South Central New York

Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture Fish Habitat Partnership
Forests, Water, and People
Great Lakes Basin Fish Habitat Partnership
Great Lakes Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species
Great Lakes Restoration Initiative
Lake Ontario Lakewide Management Plan
Mid-Atlantic Climate Change Response Framework
Mid-Atlantic Panel on Aquatic Invasive Species
National Water Quality Initiative
New England Climate Change Response Framework
New England – New York Forestry Initiative
North Atlantic Landscape Conservation Cooperative
Northeast Aquatic Nuisance Species Panel
Northern Forest Futures Project
Ohio River Basin Fish Habitat Partnership
Upper Midwest and Great Lakes Landscape Conservation Cooperative
Urban Waters Federal Partnership
- Bronx and Harlem River Watersheds (New York City)

Working Lands for Wildlife *(bog turtle, golden winged warbler, and New England cottontail)*

Ohio

America's Great Outdoors Initiative
- Grand Lake St. Mary's Watershed Wetland Development – Landscape of Regional Significance
- Great Lakes – Landscape of National Significance
- Northeast Ohio Wetland Restoration – Landscape of Regional Significance
- Ohio River Native Mussel Recovery – River and Water Trail
- Ohio-to-Erie Trail Connection – Landscape of Regional Significance
- Sulphur Springs Stream Restoration – River and Water Trail

Appalachian Forest Renewal Initiative
Appalachian Landscape Conservation Cooperative
Appalachian Mountains Migratory Bird Habitat Joint Venture
Appalachian Regional Reforestation Initiative
Central Appalachians Climate Change Response Framework
Chiefs' Joint Landscape Restoration Partnership
- Collaborative Oak Management in the Ohio Appalachian Mountains

Community Engagement through Recreation and Tourism – Wayne National Forest communities
Eastern Tallgrass Prairie and Big Rivers Landscape Conservation Cooperative
Forests, Water, and People
Great Lakes Basin Fish Habitat Partnership
Great Lakes Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species
Great Lakes Restoration Initiative
Lake Erie Lakewide Action and Management Plan
Midwest Glacial Lakes Fish Habitat Partnership
Midwest Natural Resources Group
Mississippi River Basin Healthy Watersheds Initiative
Mississippi River Basin Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species
National Water Quality Initiative
Northern Forest Futures Project
Ohio River Basin Fish Habitat Partnership
Upper Midwest and Great Lakes Landscape Conservation Cooperative
Upper Mississippi River and Great Lakes Region Migratory Bird Habitat Joint Venture
Urban Waters Federal Partnership
- Western Lake Erie Basin *(Toledo)*

Pennsylvania

America's Great Outdoors
- Lower Susquehanna Initiative and Captain John Smith Connecting Trail – River and Water Trail
- Pittsburgh and Philadelphia Urban Greening – Great Urban Parks and Wildlife Areas

Appalachian Landscape Conservation Cooperative
Appalachian Forest Renewal Initiative
Appalachian Mountains Migratory Bird Habitat Joint Venture
Appalachian Regional Reforestation Initiative
Atlantic Coastal Fish Habitat Partnership
Atlantic Coast Migratory Bird Habitat Joint Venture
Chesapeake Bay Program
Chesapeake Bay Watershed Initiative
Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture Fish Habitat Partnership
Forests, Water, and People
Great Lakes Basin Fish Habitat Partnership
Great Lakes Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species
Great Lakes Restoration Initiative
Lake Erie Lakewide Action and Management Plan
Mid-Atlantic Climate Change Response Framework
Mid-Atlantic Panel on Aquatic Invasive Species
Mississippi River Basin Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species
National Water Quality Initiative
North Atlantic Landscape Conservation Cooperative
Northern Forest Futures Project
Ohio River Basin Fish Habitat Partnership
Upper Midwest and Great Lakes Landscape Conservation Cooperative
Urban Waters Federal Partnership
- Delaware River Watershed (Metropolitan Philadelphia)

Working Lands for Wildlife *(bog turtle and golden winged warbler)*

Rhode Island

America's Great Outdoors
- Blackstone River Valley Greenway – River and Water Trail

Atlantic Coastal Fish Habitat Partnership
Atlantic Coast Migratory Bird Habitat Joint Venture
Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture Fish Habitat Partnership
Forests, Water, and People
National Water Quality Initiative
New England Climate Change Response Framework
New England – New York Forestry Initiative
North Atlantic Landscape Conservation Cooperative
Northeast Aquatic Nuisance Species Panel
Northern Forest Futures Project
Working Lands for Wildlife *(New England cottontail)*

Vermont

America's Great Outdoors
- Connecticut River Watershed National Blueway – Landscape of National Significance
- Lake Champlain – *pilot* Signature Landscape
- New England Forests and Waters – Landscape of National Significance
- Winooski River: Conservation for Flood Resilience – River and Water Trail

Atlantic Coast Migratory Bird Habitat Joint Venture
Atlantic Coastal Fish Habitat Partnership
Chiefs' Joint Landscape Restoration Partnership
- Vermont Poultney-Mettowee Watershed Restoration Project

Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture Fish Habitat Partnership
Forests, Water, and People
National Water Quality Initiative
New England Climate Change Response Framework
New England – New York Forestry Initiative
North Atlantic Landscape Conservation Cooperative
Northeast Aquatic Nuisance Species Panel
Northern Forest Futures Project

West Virginia

America's Great Outdoors
- Canaan Valley National Wildlife Refuge – Landscape of Regional Significance
- New River Gorge National River – River and Water Trail
- Ohio River Native Mussel Recovery – River and Water Trail

Appalachian Forest Renewal Initiative
Appalachian Landscape Conservation Cooperative
Appalachian Mountains Migratory Bird Habitat Joint Venture
Appalachian Regional Reforestation Initiative
Atlantic Coastal Fish Habitat Partnership
Central Appalachians Climate Change Response Framework
Central Appalachians Spruce Restoration Initiative
Chesapeake Bay Program
Chesapeake Bay Watershed Initiative
Chiefs' Joint Landscape Restoration Partnership
- West Virginia Restoration Venture

Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture Fish Habitat Partnership
Forests, Water, and People
Mid-Atlantic Panel on Aquatic Invasive Species
Mississippi River Basin Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species
National Water Quality Initiative
Northern Forest Futures Project
Ohio River Basin Fish Habitat Partnership
Working Lands for Wildlife *(golden winged warbler)*

Wisconsin

America's Great Outdoors
- Great Lakes – Landscape of National Significance
- Hackmatack National Wildlife Refuge – Landscape of Regional Significance
- Ice Age Trail – Landscape of Regional Significance
- Lake Michigan Water Trail – River and Water Trail
- Milwaukee River Restoration and Fish Passage – River and Water Trail
- Mississippi River Bluffs – Landscape of National Significance

Chiefs' Joint Landscape Restoration Partnership
- Lake Superior Landscape Restoration Partnership in Northern Wisconsin

Driftless Area Landscape Conservation Initiative
Driftless Area Restoration Effort Fish Habitat Partnership
Eastern Tallgrass Prairie and Big Rivers Landscape Conservation Cooperative
Fishers and Farmers Fish Habitat Partnership for the Upper Mississippi River Basin
Forests, Water, and People
Great Lakes Basin Fish Habitat Partnership
Great Lakes Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species
Great Lakes Restoration Initiative
Lake Michigan Lakewide Action and Management Plan
Lake Superior Binational Program
Midwest Glacial Lakes Fish Habitat Partnership
Midwest Natural Resources Group
Mississippi River Basin Healthy Watersheds Initiative
Mississippi River Basin Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species
National Water Quality Initiative
Northern Forest Futures Project
Northwoods Climate Change Response Framework
Upper Midwest and Great Lakes Landscape Conservation Cooperative
Upper Mississippi River and Great Lakes Region Migratory Bird Habitat Joint Venture
Upper Mississippi River Forest Partnership
Urban Forestry Climate Change Response Framework (Metropolitan Chicago)

Regional Federal Initiatives by National Forest

Initiatives Active on all National Forest System Lands in the Northeast and Midwest

Aquatic Organism Passage
Forests, Water, and People
Framework for Sustainable Recreation
Northern Forest Futures Project

Allegheny National Forest (Pennsylvania)

Appalachian Landscape Conservation Cooperative
Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture Fish Habitat Partnership
Mid-Atlantic Climate Change Response Framework
Ohio River Basin Fish Habitat Partnership

Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest (Wisconsin)

Chiefs' Joint Landscape Restoration Partnership
- Lake Superior Landscape Restoration Partnership in Northern Wisconsin

Great Lakes Basin Fish Habitat Partnership
Great Lakes Restoration Initiative
Midwest Glacial Lakes Fish Habitat Partnership
Northwoods Climate Change Response Framework
Upper Midwest and Great Lakes Landscape Conservation Cooperative
Upper Mississippi River and Great Lakes Region Migratory Bird Habitat Joint Venture

Chippewa National Forest (Minnesota)

Chiefs' Joint Landscape Restoration Partnership
- Upper Mississippi River Headwaters Restoration in North Central Minnesota

Midwest Glacial Lakes Fish Habitat Partnership
Northwoods Climate Change Response Framework
Upper Midwest and Great Lakes Landscape Conservation Cooperative

Finger Lakes National Forest (New York)

Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture Fish Habitat Partnership *(Battenkill River watershed)*
Great Lakes Basin Fish Habitat Partnership
Great Lakes Restoration Initiative
Mid-Atlantic Climate Change Response Framework
Upper Midwest and Great Lakes Landscape Conservation Cooperative

Green Mountain National Forest (Vermont)

America's Great Outdoors Initiative
- Connecticut River Watershed National Blueway – Landscape of National Significance
- Lake Champlain – *pilot* Signature Landscape
- New England Forests and Waters – Landscape of National Significance

Chiefs' Joint Landscape Restoration Partnership
- Vermont Poultney-Mettowee Watershed Restoration Project

Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture Fish Habitat Partnership
New England Climate Change Response Framework
North Atlantic Landscape Conservation Cooperative

Hiawatha National Forest (Michigan)

Great Lakes Basin Fish Habitat Partnership
Great Lakes Restoration Initiative
Northwoods Climate Change Response Framework
Upper Midwest and Great Lakes Landscape Conservation Cooperative

Hoosier National Forest (Indiana)

Appalachian Landscape Conservation Cooperative
Central Hardwoods Climate Change Response Framework
Ohio River Basin Fish Habitat Partnership

Huron-Manistee National Forest (Michigan)

America's Great Outdoors Initiative
- Saginaw Bay – *pilot* Signature Watershed

Great Lakes Basin Fish Habitat Partnership *(Kirtland's Warbler)*
Great Lakes Restoration Initiative
Midwest Glacial Lakes Fish Habitat Partnership
Northwoods Climate Change Response Framework
Upper Midwest and Great Lakes Landscape Conservation Cooperative
Upper Mississippi River and Great Lakes Region Migratory Bird Habitat Joint Venture

Mark Twain National Forest (Missouri)

America's Great Outdoors
- White River Blueway – *pilot site*

Central Hardwoods Climate Change Response Framework
Central Hardwoods Migratory Bird Habitat Joint Venture
Chiefs' Joint Landscape Restoration Partnership
- Missouri Ozark Highlands Restoration Partnership

Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program
- Missouri Pine-Oak Landscape Restoration *(State and Federal forest lands only)*

Great Plains Fish Habitat Partnership
Gulf Coastal Plains and Ozarks Landscape Conservation Cooperative
Southeast Aquatic Resources Fish Habitat Partnership

Midewin Tallgrass Prairie (Illinois)

Eastern Tallgrass Prairie and Big Rivers Landscape Conservation Cooperative
Great Lakes Restoration Initiative
Midwest Glacial Lakes Fish Habitat Partnership
Treasured Landscapes – Midewin Tallgrass Prairie Restoration
Urban Forestry Climate Change Response Framework (Metropolitan Chicago)

Monongahela National Forest (West Virginia)

America's Great Outdoors – *pilot site*
Appalachian Landscape Conservation Cooperative
Appalachian Mountains Migratory Bird Habitat Joint Venture
Central Appalachians Climate Change Response Framework
Central Appalachians Spruce Restoration Initiative
Chesapeake Bay Watershed Initiative
Chesapeake Bay Program
Chiefs' Joint Landscape Restoration Partnership
- West Virginia Restoration Venture

Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture Fish Habitat Partnership
Ohio River Basin Fish Habitat Partnership

Ottawa National Forest (Michigan)

Great Lakes Basin Fish Habitat Partnership
Great Lakes Restoration Initiative
Lake Superior Binational Program
Midwest Glacial Lakes Fish Habitat Partnership
Northwoods Climate Change Response Framework
Upper Midwest and Great Lakes Landscape Conservation Cooperative

Shawnee National Forest (Illinois)

Appalachian Landscape Conservation Cooperative
Central Hardwoods Climate Change Response Framework
Central Hardwoods Migratory Bird Habitat Joint Venture
Chiefs' Joint Landscape Restoration Partnership
- Kinkaid Lake Watershed Restoration in Southern Illinois

Community Engagement through Recreation and Tourism
Fishers and Farmers Fish Habitat Partnership for the Upper Mississippi River Basin
Gulf Coastal Plains and Ozarks Landscape Conservation Cooperative
Middle Mississippi River Partnership
Ohio River Basin Fish Habitat Partnership

Superior National Forest (Minnesota)

Chiefs' Joint Landscape Restoration Partnership
- Minnesota Lake Superior North Shore Coastal Forest Restoration Project

Community Engagement through Recreation and Tourism
Great Lakes Basin Fish Habitat Partnership
Great Lakes Restoration Initiative
Midwest Glacial Lakes Fish Habitat Partnership
Northwoods Climate Change Response Framework
Upper Midwest and Great Lakes Landscape Conservation Cooperative

Wayne National Forest (Ohio)

Appalachian Landscape Conservation Cooperative
Appalachian Mountains Migratory Bird Habitat Joint Venture
Central Appalachians Climate Change Response Framework
Chiefs' Joint Landscape Restoration Partnership
- Collaborative Oak Management in the Ohio Appalachian Mountains

Community Engagement through Recreation and Tourism
Ohio River Basin Fish Habitat Partnership

White Mountain National Forest (New Hampshire)

America's Great Outdoors
- Connecticut River Watershed National Blueway – Landscape of National Significance
- New England Forests and Waters – Landscape of National Significance

Chiefs' Joint Landscape Restoration Partnership
- New Hampshire Drinking Water Improvement

Community Engagement through Recreation and Tourism
Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture Fish Habitat Partnership
New England Climate Change Response Framework
North Atlantic Landscape Conservation Cooperative
Treasured Landscapes – Tropical Storm Irene Restoration